

DX News

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Volume 67, No. 4 - October 25, 1999 (ISSN 0737-1659)



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CPC Test Calendar

KMON	MT	560	Nov. 7	*0000-0500
WGAI	NC	560	Nov. 7	0100-1030
KSTN	CA	1420	Jan. 1	0300-??

KSTN-1420 ... Via Bruce Conti: The sixth annual KSTN DX test is scheduled to begin at the stroke of midnight Pacific time, January 1, 2000. The request line will be open to go on the air with reports and New Year's greetings, 209-948-1420. Format will be '70's disco music. There will be a prize drawing from all reports received for a souvenir piece of the transmitter. Reports to: Paul Shinn, CE - 2171 Ralph Avenue - Stockton CA 95206.

From the Publisher ... According to Contest Manager Luke Steele, the first contest is still underway and will run until October 30, so you still have a little time left to get your entry in. And you now can e-mail your entry: <<midwestairchecks@hotmail.com>> is his address.

The AM STEREO Page has been updated once again with a new address of <<http://www.amstereoradio.com>>, according to webmaster "Alex K."

WTFDA ... Our friends at the Worldwide TV-FM DX Association are offering a dual deal on membership: "The WTFDA has started its own TV-FM Email list at topica.com. The list is open to all WTFDA members and guests. Anyone who might be interested in WTFDA membership and

list subscription can email Mike Bugaj at ikon@netcom.com. A trial 120 day subscription to the Email list is available to anyone considering club membership. After that...you decide." (Mike clarified the last statement by saying that after four months, the trial membership will be terminated unless you join the WTFDA, too.)

Welcome to these new members ... James Gnagy, Jr., North Canton, OH; Dan Gebhart (rejoins), Kettering, OH; Lexington Smith (rejoins), Woodbury, CT; Ted Wedzilowicz KA2HMB (rejoins), Elizabeth, NJ; Richard J. Miller, Mishawaka, IN; William J. Meers, Kettering, OH; Rocco Cotroneo, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Larry Marshall, Great Neck, NY; James H. Weber, Lancaster, PA (rejoins); Joseph Sandy, Bridgeport, WV (yep, he joined at the convention); Jerry H. Neves (rejoins), San Bruno, CA; Gerry Thomas (rejoins); Pensacola, FL; Andy Rosenblum, Goffstown, NY.

Are you expiring?

We hope not! To avoid expiration, mail your remittance to the **DX News Membership Center early.**

Allow **at least three weeks** after mailing your check or money order for new renewal data to appear on your mailing label.

DXN Publishing Schedule, Volume 67

Iss.	Deadline	Pub. Date	Iss.	Deadline	Pub. Date
5.	Oct. 22	Nov. 1	18.	Feb. 4	Feb. 14
6.	Oct. 29	Nov. 8	19.	Feb. 11	Feb. 21
7.	Nov. 5	Nov. 15	20.	Feb. 18	Feb. 28
8.	Nov. 12	Nov. 22	21.	Feb. 25	Mar. 6
9.	Nov. 19	Nov. 29	22.	Mar. 3	Mar. 13
10.	Nov. 26	Dec. 6	23.	Mar. 10	Mar. 20
11.	Dec. 3	Dec. 13	24.	Mar. 24	Apr. 3
12.	Dec. 10	Dec. 20	25.	Apr. 7	Apr. 17
13.	Dec. 31	Jan. 10	26.	May 5	May 15
14.	Jan. 7	Jan. 17	27.	June 2	June 12
15.	Jan. 14	Jan. 24	28.	July 7	July 17
16.	Jan. 21	Jan. 31	29.	Aug. 4	Aug. 14
17.	Jan. 28	Feb. 7	30.	Sept. 8	Sept. 18

DX Time Machine

From the pages of DX News:

50 years ago ... from the October 22, 1949 DXN: This issue featured the 1949 Convention Poem by NRC poet Carroll Seth of Erie, PA ... KVNI-1240 was scheduled to present a special Anniversary Program on Nov. 1 from 2-5 am.

25 years ago ... from the October 28, 1974 DXN: Musings editor Ernie Cooper, suffering from "a touch of glaucoma" and extra eye usage due to working overtime, informed members that all single-spaced Musings and lists of verie signers would be torn up and discarded; the NJPC publishing committee supported his new policy.

10 years ago ... from the October 23, 1989 DXN: Mark Connelly published his article concerning the Micro-MWDX-4A Loop versus Wire Phaser.

AM Switch

Jerry Starr w8jv@yahoo.com
c/o WHOT Radio
4040 Simon Road
Youngstown, OH 44512-1320

Status changes in AM stations, supplied by the FCC and listeners

CALL LETTER CHANGES

	Old call		New call
770	KPBC	TX Garland	KAAM
990	WVNZ	VA Richmond	WLEE
1200	WTLQ	FL Pine Island Center	WINK
1240	WINK	FL Fort Myers	WTLQ
1250	KGDD	TX Paris	KPJC
1290	WDEO	MI Saline	WYBN
1320	WLEE	VA Richmond	WVNZ
1330	WFLP	PA Erie	WFNN
1340	WNOZ	PR Aguadilla	WWNA
1400	WWRK	GA Elberton	WSGC
1400	WHCC	NC Waynesville	WMXF
1470	KTCB	MO Malden	KMAL



APPLICATIONS / GRANTS FOR NEW STATIONS
None

APPLICATIONS FROM EXISTING FACILITIES

880 WTZY NC Fairview: 5000 D1

GRANTS TO EXISTING FACILITIES

680 CKXG NF Grand Falls: to 102.3 FM
730 KSUD AR West Memphis: 1000/267 U4
1010 CKXD NF Gander: to 98.7 FM
1120 KCLE TX Cleburne: to 1140 kHz 710/850 U4, relocate transmitter
1140 KJSA TX Mineral Wells: to 1120 kHz 250 D1
1150 KSRB WA Seattle: 10000/6000 U2
1150 CKX MB Brandon: to 101.1 FM (call incorrectly shown as CICY in #2)

OTHERNESS

870 KSKO AK McGrath: license CANCELLED, call DELETED
890 WBAJ SC Blythewood: new station is ON THE AIR
1080 WSSI MS Carthage: station is SILENT (will return in December)
1080 WWNL PA Pittsburgh: silent station is ON THE AIR
1120 WBZR FL Destin: silent station is ON THE AIR (relaying WFSH-1400)
1220 KLVZ CO Denver: station is SILENT (will return in November)
1340 WWNA PR Aguadilla: silent station (as WNOZ) is ON THE AIR
1370 WGCL IN Bloomington: silent station is ON THE AIR
1400 WFOR MS Hattiesburg: silent station is ON THE AIR
1450 WFFX MS Meridian: silent station is ON THE AIR
1470 WWBG NC Greensboro: new station is ON THE AIR
1490 KVLL TX Woodville: silent station is ON THE AIR

THANKS: Bill Hale, Ed Krejny, Shawn Axelrod, Steve Francis, Gerry Bishop, Les Johnson, and MSJ

73 and Good DX, Jerry Starr & Buffalo K. Foonman

Jerry & BKF

NRC's antenna manuals
Now completely revised and up-to-date!
Antenna Reference Manuals, Vol. 1 and 2, \$6.95 each (\$9.95 to non-members)
Loop Antenna Design & Theory, \$8.50 (\$12.95 to non-members)
Order from NRC Publications - P. O. Box 164 - Mannville, NY 13661, NY orders, please add sales tax.

Domestic DX Digest

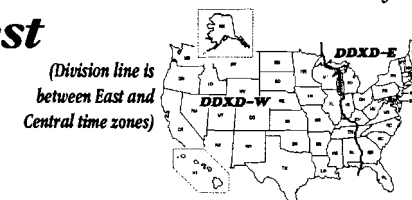
West: Bill Hale phantom2@eaze.net

6124 Roaring Springs Drive - North Richland Hills, TX 76180-5552

East: David Yocis DavidYocis@aol.com

532 LaGuardia PL, #462 - New York, NY 10012-1428

DX Catches in the U. S. and Canada, with 24-hr. ELT



(Division line is
between East and
Central time zones)

DDXD-West

MEDIUM WAVE RAMBLINGS

- A tip of the CPC cap goes to Gary Jackson of Sacramento, California who sent in a generous contribution ... but to the wrong guy; Me. Blaine Thompson of Fort Wayne, Indiana has taken over those duties this season. So send your CPC contributions to him. His address is PO Box 15762 Fort Wayne, IN 46885-5762. Gary also sends word that he "Talked to the owner of KHPY-1670 Moreno Valley, California. Found out he lost CP for 10000/9000 due to Mexico. With their permission he could get it back. Plan to build new antennas for 1670, so may it may be a year before they will be on the air. Also talked to the owner of KSSX-1690 Roseville, California. They are in the process of construction, no definite date to go on the air. Asked me to call back next month for a more definite date."
- Frank Aden has posted a couple of photos of the new KBOI 6-tower site for those of you who care to look. They are at: <http://members.aol.com/n7sok/kboi.jpg>
- Please remember to send your loggings in frequency order, NOT in time order. Also, separate unIDs, TIS, etc from the regular stuff. Thanks.

REPORTERS

- SA-MB Shawn Axelrod Winnipeg ICR-70, Drake R8 + 4' unamplified box loop/Quantum Loop/145' long wire/100' indoor wire <saxelrod@mb.sympatico.ca>
- AB-CA Art Blair Folsom, CA NRD-515 + Kiwa Loop
- RD-AZ Ragnar Danneskjold Mesa Optimus 12-604A; GE Model 3-5280C; Realistic DX 440 <lwdxer@juno.com>
- GH-KS Gary Houdek Munden GE Superadio
- TRH-CA Tim Hall, Chula Vista ICF-2010 KIWA Loop <halls@inetworld.net>
- TRH-CA1 Tim Hall on the road, same equipment plus Ford car radio, Superadio III
- TRH-CA2 DXing at Ridgecrest ICF-2010 + KIWA Loop
- TRH-CA3 DXing at Furnace Creek (Death Valley) ICF-2010 + KIWA Loop
- TRH-CA4 DXing at Lone Pine ICF-2010 + KIWA Loop
- GJ-CA Gary Jackson Sacramento FRG-8800 + Kiwa Loop
- DS-TN Doug Smith Pleasant View Kenwood TS-940 ham rig and 160 m dipole at 65' <w9wi@bellsouth.net>
- JW-CO John Wilkins Wheat Ridge Drake R-8, 4-foot Box Loop <peakbagger3@juno.com>
- DZ-WI Dan Ziolkowski Cudahy Sony ICF- 2010 with Kiwa Filters, Drake R8 + Kiwa Loop <danzziolkowski@compuserve.com>
- Ed.-TX Editor North Richland Hills ICF-2010

LISTEN...Have a Good Day!
CJBK-129

STATION NEWS & NOTES

- 770 KPBC TX Garland - 11/1 - KPBC will be changing calls (to KAAM) and format (to NOS/BBD) this date. Same owners and idea as 560 in Denver. [Ed.-TX]
- 1430 KFIG CA Fresno - 10/6 0949 - Local sports and ID. Station is now all sports as of 9/13/99 including ESPN, Oakland Raiders, San Jose Sharks, Los Angeles Lakers, and may have NASCAR and San Francisco Giants in 2000. New slogan is *The Big Dawg*. New address is POB 26945, Fresno, CA 93729. (AB-CA)
- 1700 WAPN? FL Miami Springs -10/7 2243 - Heard weakly under KBGG and KTBK, with Spanish programming. Have seen these new calls listed ... are they using them yet. (SA-MB)

UNIDs and UNID HELP

- 590 UNID ?? - For JS-MN on 7/11 - Only FF station listed is CKRS that I am aware of up

- 680 WGG5? ?? - 10/5 0618 - Call ID sounded like this. Traffic for Highway 50. (WGG5 is a TV station in Greenville, SC) (DS-TN)
- 710 UNID ?? - 10/15 0912 - Under 710 from Black Canyon City, AZ. This one had a sports format and the radio antenna was at 000/180 from Mesa, AZ. (RD-AZ)
- 740 UNID ?? - 10/10 2017 - Slogan *Groovin' Oldies*, and format to match. (DS-TN)
- 810 UNID ?? - 10/10 2020 - *Solid Gospel* satellite feed // local 105.1 FM. (DS-TN)
- 890 UNID ?? - 10/14 0034-0044 until fade - With Bruce Williams. Had KDXU nulled. (RD-AZ)
- 1230 UNID ?? - 9/25 2217 - Fair, with New Mexico State Aggies football play-by-play on the Aggies Sports Network. (TRH-CA2)
- 1230 UNID ?? - 9/26 0025 - *Real Country* feed; looped E-W. (TRH-CA2)
- 1360 WMGY? ?? - 10/5 0550 - Call ID sounded like this. Southern gospel format. (DS-TN)
- 1490 UNID ?? - 9/27 2106 - While driving near CA-190/CA-136 junction, noted station giving local traffic for Highway 89-West. Maybe Prescott, AZ. (TRH-CA1)
- 1580 UNID ?? - 10/8 2035 - UnID station mixing with WJVA and KDOM, with NOS music. Heard partial ID as *AM 15-80 W*—. Ideas anyone. (SA-MB)
- 1600 UNID ?? - For TRH-WI on 8/3 station was WRPN Ripon. (SA-MB)

DX AND EQUIPMENT TESTS

- 1680 WTIR FL Winter Garden -10/5 2045 - On with a killer signal over usual rap music pest. Had a loop telling you about the station and what they were about. Running full 10,000 watts for the test. (SA-MB)

TIS & OTHER STUFF

- 530 KNEC996 CA Palmdale - 9/25 1430 - CalTrans mobile station testing this weekend. *This is KNEC996 broadcasting in Palmdale. At this time we are testing our radio and beacon... this is only a test.* This station gets out well. First noted from Rainbow Basin National Natural Landmark north of Barstow. Also noted mid-day from Irona Pinnacles National Natural Landmark (east of Ridgecrest) the next day. (TRH-CA1)
- 1000 WPFM428 CA Barstow - 9/25 1225 - Already loud 16 miles south of Barstow, with short tape loop of road info. Still strong at Kramer Junction (US-395@CA-58, way west of Barstow). (TRH-CA1)
- 1610 (KMC490) CA Barstow - 9/25 1300 - No trace of this station. Has apparently been off for some time now. (TRH-CA1)
- 1610 (KMC489) CA Johannesburg - 9/28 1600 - No trace of this station while driving through the area. (TRH-CA1)
- 1610 WPEA446 CA Lancaster - 9/25 1720 - Poor-to-fair signals in Mojave, under WNYD244 with information about California state parks (including Red Rocks State Park), (Indian?) museum, and other attractions. (TRH-CA1)
- 1610 (KMC472) CA Lone Pine - 9/28 0100 - No trace of this station while staying in Lone Pine and driving around this area. No signs noted. (TRH-CA4)
- 1610 (WPIW546) CA Mojave - 9/25 1825 - No trace of this station while we were in Mojave. (TRH-CA1)
- 1610 (KMC471) CA Ridgecrest - 9/25 2000 - No trace of this station while we were staying in Ridgecrest. (TRH-CA2)
- 1610 WNYD244 CA Tehachapi - 9/25 1718 - LOUD signals in Mojave with info about energy generated (and pollution avoided) by windmills. Definitely uses these calls, not WNYD243 as listed. (TRH-CA1) - 9/27 0244 - Also noted from Furnace Creek the following night under Zion National Park station. (TRH-CA3)
- 1610 TIS CA Yosemite area - 9/26 0925 - Seems to be the station I've heard from home the last couple of winters (KNEC996 CalTrans mobile unit). Suspect this station is at the east end of Tioga pass (CA-120) but I've yet to get close enough to that location to find out. (TRH-CA2) - 9/27 0311 - Noted from Furnace Creek the next night. (TRH-CA3)
- 1610 KOJ761? UT Zion National Park - 9/27 0012 - This station dominated the channel all evening with info on campground availability, vehicle size restrictions, etc. From message con-



- 1640 WGLR662 TX Eules - 10/5 0529 - DFW IAP TIS - Fair, with flight info. Surprised to hear this. Figured they'd be long gone once the 1,000 watters got cranked up in the X-band. Well over whatever's occupying 1640 these days, though 1680 not heard. (DS-TN)
- 1700 HAR CA Los Angeles - 9/27 0912 - LAX-area station testing with usual message about field strength intensity, carrier output power, etc. (TRH-CA3)
- 1700 WPMD956 CA Norwalk - 9/13 0229 - Noted with IDs, Cerritos College promos, in well for quite a while. Also heard mentions of Long Beach State, which is intriguing as there is/was a station listed there as well. New, for California #276. (TRH-CA) - 9/27 0915 - Also noted here with concert information, neighborhood watch PSA, and a couple of IDs. (TRH-CA3)

MIDNIGHT TO MIDNIGHT ELT

1460

- 560 KBLU AZ Yuma - 10/10 0045 - With ad for La Mesa RV on I-8. Very rare and under KLZ. (RD-AZ)
- 570 KLAC CA Los Angeles - 10/12 0902 - With weather for Los Angeles area, 0903 ID and the *Charlie Tuna Show*. (RD-AZ)
- 590 KCSJ CO Pueblo - 10/11 0835 - With sports until 0837. Male announcer had a very high pitched voice. ID and then ad for high school football on the web and into Charles Osgood. New. (RD-AZ)
- 600 KOGO CA San Diego - 10/10 0115 - With Art Bell selling Freeplay radios. (RD-AZ) [He has no shame, hi - Ed.]
- 650 KSTE CA Rancho Cordova - 10/15 0920 - ID and weather. New. (RD-AZ)
- 670 KLTT CO Commerce City - 9/27 0720 - Woman with religious talk. Good, but under KBOI. (AB-CA)
- 730 WLIL TN Lenoir City - 10/10 2017 - Very good, with talk of Tennessee Titans and University of Tennessee Volunteers football. (DS-TN)
- 780 WBBM IL Chicago - 10/14 0025 - Time check and ID into CBS business and market news, read by a man named Turner. (RD-AZ)
- 780 KKOH NV Reno - 10/10 0119 - With Art Bell talking about someone finding a skull in a river. (RD-AZ) [He has no shame, hi - Ed.]
- 810 WHB MO Kansas City - 10/8 1435 - With station ID as *Sports Radio WHB Kansas City*, then into a sports talk program on the Premier Radio Network. Ex: C&W. (GH-KS)
- 850 WRMR OH Cleveland - 10/7 0231 - Way over KOA and unID music station, with calls & weather. (DS-TN)
- 890 KDXU UT Cedar City - 10/10 0113 - With Art Bell giving a testimonial for a gold seller. (RD-AZ) [He has no shame, hi - Ed.]
- 920 KVEL UT Vernal - 9/30 0840 - Woman with KVEL ID. (AB-CA)
- 930 KSEI ID Pocatello - 10/13 0844 - With ID and One-on-One Sports. (RD-AZ)
- 930 KCCC NM Carlsbad - 10/2 2359 - Gal with... *atra vez de KCCC Radio... Nueve Treinta de la ciudad de Carlsbad en Nuevo Mexico*, then into oldies music. Fair, at best, in QRM. (JW-CO)
- 940 KBRE UT Cedar City - 10/15 0903 - With relay of 94.3 KBRE FM. Gave ID. (RD-AZ)
- 940 CJGX SK Yorkton - 10/7 0853 - With C&W music. Fair-to-good, but well under KFRE. (AB-CA)
- 960 KNDN NM Farmington - 10/15 0855 - Playing Johnny Cash's, I Walk the Line. (RD-AZ)
- 970 KBBK ID Rupert - 10/1 0855 - Man with KBBK ID. (AB-CA)
- 1130 KWKH LA Shreveport - 10/14 0712 - Ad for high school football on *Country Gold AM 1130 KWKH* absolutely clear and with massively brutal, local signal. (RD-AZ)
- 1130 CKWX BC Vancouver - 10/14 0715 - Getting to be a regular. Hockey sports news, them baseball and basketball. In KWKH null. (RD-AZ)
- 1140 KSOO SD Sioux Falls - 10/14 0730 - Carrying *Imus in the Morning*. ID, weather, ads for A&B Business Equipment. Bethany Home (Nursing home) 1901 S. Holly, a Chevy dealer, an Auction in Sioux Falls on Victory Lane, KSOO jingle and back to Imus. New. (RD-AZ)
- 1220 KBET CA Canyon Country - 10/1 0853 - News, traffic and weather, sponsored by Loewe's. Non-ID at 0858: *You're listening to Santa Clarita's AM 1220*. Fair and

- fadey. Don't know if they've changed calls to KIIS yet. (JW-CO)
- 1220 KMYL TX Madisonville - 10/2 0059 - We've got the music you want to hear and the news you need to hear. KMYL 1220 AM in Madisonville, then news. Their "11 watts" and NOS music heard well here every night. (JW-CO)
- 1220 CJRB MB Boissevain - 10/1 0602 - CLA music program Classics till Dawn to 0615, then into religious program after ID as Community Service Radio CJRB. The Classics till Dawn program has been around a long time on Radio Southern Manitoba. Fair, at best, on peaks. (JW-CO)
- 1230 KOY AZ Phoenix - 9/28 0204 - Man giving contest rules, KOY community calendar, 602-861-7244. We care when it counts. This is AM 12-30, KOY, your music and memory station. (TRH-CA4)
- 1270 KTFI ID Twin Falls - 10/10 0855 - ID: Your Community Station, AM 1270, KTFI. Ad for baseball playoffs later today. Paul Simon singing America. Good signal. New. (RD-AZ)
- 1330 KOVE WY Lander - 10/11 0100 - At sign off and national anthem. New. (RD-AZ)
- 1340 KTCR WA Kennewick - 10/7 2323 - Man with legal ID and station information. (AB-CA)
- 1380 KTSM TX El Paso - 10/13 0856 - With new jingle ID Newstalk 1380 KTSM and Ken Simon show. (RD-AZ)
- 1390 KENN NM Farmington - 10/10 0030 - With ad for Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. ID 1390 KENN, Farmington's News Talk, then Art Bell. (RD-AZ) [Still no shame - Ed.]
- 1390 KLGW UT Logan - 10/10 0812 - BBD music, legal ID at 0814. KTKZ slop. (AB-CA)
- 1430 WMYS IN Indianapolis - 10/9 2100 - Call ID heard mixing with WFOB. Also CNN News from unID. (DZ-WI)
- 1430 WFOB OH Fostoria - 10/9 2058 - High school football game. 2100 ad for restauraunt in Fostoria. 2106 mention of Fostoria High School as team playing. No call ID heard. Strong, but mixing with oldies on WMYS. (DZ-WI)
- 1440 WJLL NY Niagara Falls - 10/9 2112 - Weather report to call ID, then Cream with White Room. Quite strong and on top, with college football behind. (DZ-WI)
- 1450 KSPA CA Escondido - 9/27 2346 - BBD music, AM 14-50 KSPA with the music from the times of your life. New GYDXA record? (TRH-CA4) [See end of column, hi - Ed.]
- 1450 KMCA CA Shasta - 10/5 2359 - Man with AM 1450 KMCA ID. (AB-CA)
- 1450 KHIT NV Reno - 10/6 (No time) - Ad for business is Sparks, local weather. Well under unID REL station. (AB-CA)
- 1490 KRNR OR Roseburg - 9/28 0812 - Fair-to-good for a while, including promo for Community Update, ... weekdays on KRNR, Real Radio. I think I broke my own GYDXA record on this one. (TRH-CA4) [Methinks you are correct - Ed.]
- 1530 KCMN CO Colorado Springs - 10/10 0840 - With ID and playing Tony Bennett's If I Ruled the World. Unusual because KFBK is very dominant here. (RD-AZ)
- 1550 KLFJ MO Springfield - 10/5 0542 - Fair, with Branson & Mountain View ads. (DS-TN)
- 1560 KNZZ CA Bakersfield - 10/10 0844 - With Art Bell. (RD-AZ) [He has no shame, hi - Ed.]
- 1580 WJVA IN South Bend - 10/8 2035 - Good signal, with Notre Dame hockey game vs Michigan and full IDs. NEW!! (SA-MB)
- 1600 KYBC AZ Cottonwood - 10/14 0800 - With CNN News and Louis Armstrong playing Hello, Dolly. God bless 'em, they had a real local announcer. Running 46 watts of red hot power. (RD-AZ)



GRAVEYARD DX UPDATE

* indicates record held by DXer from North America

					Miles
1240 kHz:					
WHBU	IN	Anderson	Steve Kennedy	Coal Township, IN	485
1340 kHz:					
WSOY	IL	Decatur	Steve Kennedy	Coal Township, PA	*659
KRMD	LA	Shreveport	Steve Kennedy	Coal Township	1114
1400 kHz:					
WLTA	GA	Alpharetta	Steve Kennedy	Coal Township, PA	632

WIEL	KY	Elizabethtown	Steve Kennedy	Coal Township	546
WKDY	SC	Spartanburg	Steve Kennedy	Coal Township	500
1450 kHz:					
WDNG	AL	Anniston	Steve Kennedy	Coal Township, PA	712
KSPA	CA	Escondido	Tim Hall	Lone Pine, CA	*247
WKLA	MI	Ludington	Steve Kennedy	Coal Township	552

1490 kHz:					
KRNR	CA	Roseburg	Tim Hall	Lone Pine, CA	*537
WTVL	ME	Waterville	Steve Kennedy	Coal Township, PA	436
WABJ	MI	Adrian	Steve Kennedy	Coal Township	397
WRIM	MS	Vicksburg	Steve Kennedy	Coal Township	988
WICY	NY	Malone	Steve Kennedy	Coal Township	301
CFPS	ON	Port Elgin	Steve Kennedy	Coal Township	353

Totals:	1230	1240	1340	1400	1450	1490	Total
Steve Kennedy Coal Township, PA	42	31	49	44	41	43	250
Joe Kureth Uniontown, MD	32	35	40	43	37	41	228
Art Blair Folsom, CA	2	1	6	10	6	7	32

DDXD-East



Deadlines are Tuesdays.

STATION NEWS

- 890 WBAJ SC Blythewood - 10/4 0957 - New station on the air with religious programming. Legal ID then promo for Wycliffe Bible Translators. (RB-NC)
- 1330 WFNN PA Erie - 10/4 2000 - Partial ID "Sports Radio 1330 WFNN ... A Renaldo Communication station." Then ABC news. Call change for someone. (SK-PA) [Ex-WFLP per AM Switch in this issue. - DY]
- 1570 WISP PA Doylestown - 10/8 1856 - "Catholic Answers Live" program end, ID at 1900 and "All Catholic Radio" slogan. Call (ex-WBUX) and format change? (JEK-MD)

UNID AND UNID HELP

- 1110 UNID - 9/30 1934 - Canned ID "Mercer County's radio station, Country 1110." (SK-PA) [Maybe WUHN-MA with "Berkshire County"? - DY]
- 1290 UNID - 10/1 2000 - High school football, one team was the Tigers. (WM-MD)
- 1340 UNID - 10/5 2007 - Sports talk show with 2 hosts, local sounding (not One on One Sports), strong for a few minutes in the jumble. Call letters sounded like KBMD; KRMD Shreveport LA is the only thing remotely close. (SK-PA)

LOGGINGS

- 590 VOCM NF St. John's - 9/27 2205 - Call letters and programs // CHCM-740. New. (JEK-MD) [Very nice! - DY]
- 740 WNOP KY Newport - 10/11 2015 - Jazz music, mention of northern Kentucky. (WM-MD)
- WGSM NY Huntington - 10/9 1836 - Fair singing ID as "1100 and 740 WHLI," ad for WHLI website. Signoff at 1843 with invite to continue listening over internet. (HJH-PA)
- 790 CIGM ON Sudbury - 10/7 2145-2150 - C&W music, ID. (WM-MD)
- 810 WEDO PA McKeesport - 10/11 1845 - Religious programming, sign-off, ID. (WM-MD)
- 820 WYPA IL Chicago - 9/29 1957 - Finally heard in CHAM phase null, mixing with WOSU, with Family Radio programming, dual ID with WAUR-930. Ex-WAIT, WCZE, WSCR for me. (JF-ON)
- 830 WOSU OH Columbus - 10/7 1945-2000 - Program "Food for Thought," ID. (WM-MD)
- KOTC MO Kennett - 9/29 2003-2010 - All alone with C&W music, "Real Country" and "Cotton Country" slogans, to full-data sign-off, no SSB. Ex-KBOA for me. (JF-ON)
- 910 WYLI OH Marietta - 10/6 2100 - ID, insurance ad, promo for high school football game,

- USA Network News. (WM-MD)
- WJCW TN Johnson City – 10/8 0000 – End of talk show, ID. (WM-MD)
- WRNL VA Richmond – 10/11 1825 – Auto racing on MRN, "ESPN Radio" and "Sports Radio 910," ID. (WM-MD)
- 920 WMOK IL Metropolis – 9/25 2218 – Surfaced briefly in CKNX null with C&W music, "America's best country, WMOK." New. (JF-ON)
- 940 WADV PA Lebanon – 10/7 1935 – Country gospel music, ID, must be on day power. (WM-MD)
- 950 WGOV GA Valdosta – 10/8 2050 – Spartan High School football half-time coverage, call ID, ad for NAPA Auto Store in Valdosta. (JEK-MD)
- 960 WRNS NC Kinston – 10/6 2340 – C&W music, ID. (WM-MD)
- 1000 WRAR VA Tappahannock – 10/11 2210-2225 in WMVP null, with sign-off tape loop: "This concludes another day of broadcasting on AM 1000, WRAR. But the fresh mix continues on FM 105.5 WRAR." New. (TS-MD)
- 1100 WHLI NY Hempstead – 10/9 1840 – Tough under a very strong Cleveland, was able to parallel with WGSM-740. (HJH-PA)
- 1110 WTIS FL Tampa – 9/30 1943 – Sounded like sign-off with "... here on WTIS" shooting up clear through the mix. (SK-PA)
- WUHN MA Pittsfield – 9/29 1857 – Fair with WBT in WJML null with C&W music, ID mentioning "Massachusetts Station of the Year," ex-WGRG for me. (JF-ON)
- 1140 KNEI IA Waukon – 9/27 2237 – Fair in WRVA null with C&W music // FM 103.5. Supposedly daytimer with no PSSA. Heard on late several times since. (JF-ON) [Solving Jim Renfrew's unID in no. 1. – DY]
- 1150 WLOC KY Munfordville – 9/24 2352 – Surfaced over jumble with several local ads. New. (JF-ON)
- 1160 WAMB TN Donelson – 10/3 1840 – "The music you grew up with," ID sounding like WABA, NOS music. (WM-MD)
- 1220 WKMT NC Kings Mountain – 10/8 2035 – Local high school football, full station ID. (JEK-MD)
- 1240 WMFG MN Hibbing – 10/7 0107 – Canned ID "You are listening to WMFG, AM 1240," into Artie Spanier show. Good for one minute. (SK-PA)
- 1260 WZBO NC Edenton – 10/6 2123 – Fair signal with PSA from the Energy Department, ID as "WCNC-1240, WZBO-1260." Has MYL format. (HJH-PA)
- 1270 WTJZ VA Newport News – 10/5 2000 – ID abruptly inserted after preaching, mostly alone. (HJH-PA)
- 1290 WFBG PA Altoona – 9/24 2019 – Dominant with canned NOS, ID, promo for "The Morning Show" and a lottery ticket giveaway. (HJH-PA)
+ 10/8 1915 – Start of high school football game, ID. (WM-MD)
- 1310 KTCK TX Dallas – 10/2 2115 – In briefly over, under WDOOD and others with Texas Tech vs. Texas A&M football game, // KTBK-1700. (RB-NC)
- 1320 WISW SC Columbia – 10/8 2153 – Over WGET with call letters, NOS, and ad for the Lexington Market Center. Calls sounded like "WIS" without the last W. Good. (JEK-MD)
- 1340 WNCO OH Ashland – 10/4 2114 – Canned ID "The songs you (love? want?) to hear, 1340 WNCO." In jumble. (SK-PA)
- 1380 CKPC ON Brantford – 10/10 1820 – Mostly alone with oldies, jingle, then promo for the Ed McMahon Show on Thanksgiving morning. (HJH-PA)
- 1400 WMFA NC Raeford – 10/5 2022 – Promo for program "Monday through Friday on WMFA," in jumble. (SK-PA)
- 1450 WTBO MD Cumberland – 10/8 1825 – NOS-type format // WFRB-560, call letters between songs. Mostly under WCTC and no sign of semi-local WTHU. Completes MD AM stations logged for me (finally), and just 8 more PA's to go. (JEK-MD)
- 1470 WWBG NC Greensboro – 10/2 1959 – Man with "The new WBIG, WWBG Greensboro." Believe I heard them using old "WBIG" jingle song by female group. (RB-NC)
- 1490 WTVL ME Waterville – 9/30 2206 – Promo "WTVL is looking for" (salespersons?), popped up in jumble. (SK-PA)
- WABJ MI Adrian – 10/1 2300 – Partial ID in jumble "WABJ talk radio." (SK-PA)
- 1510 WNNN NJ Salem – 10/2 2000 – Very clear "We're celebrating the



birth of Jesus. Faith 1510 WNNJ Salem, a Classic Communications station." Format is REL:CHR. They've been on past 10 p.m. for the past month, finally got an ID. (SK-PA)

- 1620 KOIL NE Bellevue – 10/8 2116 – Broadcast of football game between Brian High School and Miller South High School, mention of Omaha, then man with "ESPN Sports Radio 1620 KOIL, Bellevue-Omaha-Council Bluffs" at 2118. (RB-NC)
- 1660 KRZX TX Waco – 9/28 2100 – Fair under and over WQSN, WMIB with end of phone-in show with Baylor football coach, live from the Waco Hilton. Simple "KRZI and KRZX, Waco" canned ID, then network news (joined a few seconds late, so not sure which network). TX #105. (SF-TN)
+ 10/10 0100 – Signal equal to WQSN with "Texas State Network" high school football scores from all over Texas, "You've been listening to the Friday Night Scoreboard Show on KRZI Waco." Then sign off with "Join us in the morning at five on News-Talk 1580 KRZI and KRZX Waco." Silent around 0130. (RB-NC)
- 1700 KQXX TX Brownsville – 10/6 0717 – Tejano music under KTBK then call letters in SS by both man and woman. Mention of Brownsville at 0723. (RB-NC)
- KTBK TX Sherman – 10/2 2114 – ID'ing as "KTCK Dallas-Fort Worth, KTBK Sherman-Denison," several times during Texas Tech – Texas A&M football game, // KTCK-1310. (RB-NC)



TIS AND MISCELLANEOUS

- 1630 WNB508 MD Unknown – Per JR-NY's report of this station, I've not heard it. A 1995 list from the Maryland DOT doesn't show these calls. WNVY510 Frederick moved from 530 to 1630 about a year ago, possibly to avoid QRM from the not yet built Brinklow CP on 540. I'll write the DOT for another list. (JEK-MD)
- 1650 WPMU972 PA Pittsburgh – 9/25 0017 – Good in KDNZ null with info for I-79, "no advisories at the present time." (JF-ON)

INTERNET UPDATES

News from Scott Fybus's "Northeast Radio Watch," used by permission: CFRA-ON-580 becomes all news and talk, with its sports programming all moving over to CFGO-1200. CIQC-PQ-600 will go all-news when it moves to 940, and is not likely to bring the Montreal Expos English-language baseball broadcasts to the new channel; look for them to wind up more likely than not on CJAD-800. WKZE-CT-1020, reported to be running 70's and 80's adult contemporary, ex-C&W. WYSL-NY-1040 moves from CNN Headline News to the AP All News Radio format.

ADDRESS UPDATES

- 1270 CJTN ON Trenton – Correct address is 31 Quinte St., Trenton ON K8V 3S7. No P.O. Box listed on envelope or letterhead. Phone is (613) 392-1237. (SK-PA)

REPORTERS

- | | | |
|--------|-----------------|---|
| RB-NC | Ron Bailey | Shelby – R8A, seven 550' beverages |
| JF-ON | Jeff Falconer | Clinton – Drake R8B, 45' vertical, 120' LW, modified MFJ-1026, Timewave DSP-599zx |
| SF-TN | Steve Francis | Alcoa – TRF, Select-a-Tenna |
| HJH-PA | Harry Hayes | Wilkes-Barre – TransOceanic, Kiwa pocket loop |
| SK-PA | Steve Kennedy | Coal Township – Superadio III |
| JEK-MD | Joe Kureth | Uniontown – SW8, 950' NE-SW LW |
| WM-MD | William McGuire | Cheverly – DX-380, Select-a-Tenna |
| TS-MI | Tom Sanders | Lexington – Sony ICF-890 |

Professional
Sports
Networks

Barry S. Finkel bsfinkel@ANL.gov

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Chicago, IL 60643-2409

Network listings for team sports stations

Sheldon Harvey reports via e-mail that there is one error in my National Hockey League (NHL) flagship list. For the Montreal Canadiens I had 690 CBF-PQ (FF). But CBF has switched to FM, so it should be 95.1 CBF-PQ. Please send me any NFL, NBA, and NHL network lists that you may have.

International DX Digest

Jim Renfrew JimRenfrew@delphi.com
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Foreign DX Catches. Times are UTC; for ELT, subtract 5 hrs.

Okay, how about the subject of first TA's? I remember reading my *DX News* in the late 1960's and seeing all of the amazing reports of Trans-Atlantic DX. Well, living in Connecticut I was using my father's Blaupunkt portable (which was great for DX because the 1400-1600 part of the spectrum had its own band, and wasn't so crowded up at that end like my cheaper portable), and I hooked up a long wire to the terminal on back, and started tuning around. Almost immediately I had strong signals from Europe, BBC, Deutsche Welle, Portugal - "wow, this was easy", I thought. But I soon realized that it was too strange to be getting all of these signals in English. I didn't know why at the time, but I was getting Shortwave signals that were overloading my antenna and receiver. I never did get a TA from Connecticut. Except that my log book from that time shows a Radio Uno 685 from Costa Rica which was probably Spain, but I didn't realize it at the time. My first official TA came in Rochester more than twenty years ago when I finally logged West Germany on 1586. I hope you can hear at least one this year!

Jean Burnell finds bones on the beach at Cappahayden, perhaps the only remains of a DXer sent out in the rain to repair the beverage last fall? The thoughts make my spine tingle! Read on in Jean's initial report from Newfoundland! Old radios used a "cat's whisker" on the dial, but are live cats a help or a hindrance to DX? Bruce Conti gives more purrprofessional testimony on this vital subject below.

Jim



TRANS-ATLANTIC DX

- 621 CANARY ISLANDS, RNE1 Santa Cruz de Tenerife, OCT 11 0525-0540 - loud and clear with news by man in SS and reports from the field via telephone. Time pips at 0530. DF bearing well south of due east ruling out Spain. Was causing a screaming het against domestics on 620. [DeLorenzo-MA]
- 639 SPAIN RNE synchros OCT 9 2240 - Fair; telephone talk in Spanish // 684. [Conti-ME]
- 675 NETHERLANDS Lopik OCT 9 2245 - Oldies music weak through buzzing noise (jammer?). [Conti-ME]
- 693.7 AZORES RDP Santa Barbara OCT 9 2255 - Good; music and low frequency het against 690. [Conti-ME]
- 765 SWITZERLAND RSR Sottens OCT 9 2310 - Good; uninterrupted light French vocals. [Conti-ME]
- 774 SPAIN RNE synchros OCT 9 2315 - Fair; talk // 684. [Conti-ME]
- 836 AZORES RDP Pico da Barrosa OCT 9 2335 - Good; music // 693.7, het against 837. [Conti-ME]
- 846 ITALY RAI Rome OCT 10 0020 - Good; emotional Italian vocals // 6060. [Conti-ME]
- 855 SPAIN RNE synchros OCT 9 2345 - Good; talk // 684. [Conti-ME]
- 864 EGYPT ERTU Santah OCT 9 2350 - Good; Koranic recitations. [Conti-ME]
- 891 ALGERIA Alger OCT 9 2355 - Excellent with huge signal but weak audio; instrumental music. [Conti-ME]
- 936 SPAIN RNE synchros OCT 10 0025 - Fair; nostalgic instrumental // 855. [Conti-ME]
- 954 SPAIN R.Espana, Madrid OCT 10 0030 - Good; in-studio discussion in Spanish. [Conti-ME]
- 1017 GERMANY SWR Wolfsburg OCT 10 0050 - Good; pop music and woman in German, over presumed Turkey with Middle Eastern music. [Conti-ME]
- 1053 ENGLAND Talk Radio synchros OCT 10 0125 - Good; "Good morning..." and talk about train accident. [Conti-ME]
- 1098 SLOVAKIA Slovensko 1, Nitra OCT 10 0140 - Fair; music over RNE-Spain. [Conti-ME]
- 1107 SPAIN RNE synchros OCT 10 0145 - Fair; talk with synchro echo over an unID station. [Conti-ME]
- 1134 CROATIA HRT Zadar OCT 10 0150 - Good; Slavic rock music. [Conti-ME]
- 1143 SPAIN COPE synchros OCT 10 0155 - Fair; woman in Spanish with synchro echo, over an unID station. [Conti-ME]
- 1215 ENGLAND Virgin Radio synchros OCT 10 0210 - Fair; "This is Virgin... good morning!" and rock music, well over Spain. [Conti-ME]
- 1251 LIBYA Tripoli OCT 10 0225 - Fair; man and woman in Arabic, and music // 15415. [Conti-ME]

- 1296 SPAIN COPE synchros OCT 10 0245 - Good; telephone talk // 1143, no sign of Sudan through 0300. [Conti-ME]
- 1314 NORWAY NRK Kvitsoy OCT 9 2145 - Good; country/folk music, signal gone an hour later. [Conti-ME]
- 1386 unID OCT 10 0315 - Fair; choral chants, similar to popular Gregorian chants. [Conti-ME]
- 1395 ALBANIA RTV Flakke OCT 10 0410 - Tentative; uninterrupted upbeat jazz/R&B music. [Conti-ME]
- 1458 ALBANIA R.Trana/TWR, Flakke OCT 10 0325 - Tentative; light vocal by a woman, signal was cut before the end of the song at 0330. [Conti-ME]
- 1503 AZORES AFN Lajes OCT 10 2220 - Good; Denver Broncos vs. Oakland Raiders NFL football game in English. [Conti-ME]
- 1521 SAUDI ARABIA BSKSA Duba OCT 10 0340 - Good; man in Arabic. [Conti-ME]
- 1530 VATICAN R.Vaticana OCT 10 0345 - Fair; interval signal and talk, was // 4005 before 0345 IS. [Conti-ME]
- 1548 KUWAIT VOA Kuwait City OCT 9 2210 - Fair; news report about Clinton support of nuclear weapons treaty, over an unID music station. [Conti-ME]

RADIO VARIÉDADES

PAN-AMERICAN DX

- 530 TURKS & CAICOS RVC South Caicos OCT 10 2210 - Dominant sunset to sunrise; religion in Spanish over CIAO. [Conti-ME]
- 550 CUBA R.Rebelde OCT 10 1005 - Fair; nostalgic vocal // 670. [Conti-ME]
- 550 VENEZUELA YVKS Mundial, Caracas OCT 11 0245 - Fair; ID and salsa under R.Rebelde-Cuba. [Conti-ME]
- 555 ST. KITTS ZIZ Basseterre OCT 11 0250 - Good; easy listening music. Other Caribbean splits were also good in pass-bys but not logged. [Conti-ME]
- 560 CUBA R.Rebelde OCT 10 1008 - Parallel 550 and 670, under WGAN. [Conti-ME]
- 570 CUBA CMDC Pilon (per WRTH), 10/8 0339 UTC, good with news and usual time pips and code ID each minute. [Rigas - IL]
- 580 PUERTO RICO WKAQ R.Reló, San Juan OCT 11 0300 - Good; "WKAQ Radio Reloj, la hora las once," Sears ad, and news. [Conti-ME]
- 630 PUERTO RICO WSKN Super Kadena, San Juan OCT 10 0935 - Fair; Impacto promo with zip+4 address in Spanish, "...San Juan, Puerto Rico 00936-3634," in WPRO null. [Conti-ME]
- 640 CUBA Radio Progreso, OCT 03 1999-lively Spanish pop tunes, the ID "Radio Progreso Habana" by man. Booming in, all alone. Parallel 900 also strong. [Ziolkowski-WI]
- 650 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC R.Universal, Sto Domingo OCT 11 0220 - Good; Universal jingle, merengue music, over Colombia. [Conti-ME]
- 660 COLOMBIA R.Autentica, Cali OCT 11 0202 - Fair; "Estereo Cristiana presenta..." religion with many Colombia mentions. [Conti-ME]
- 660 ST. LUCIA R.St.Lucia, Babonneau OCT 11 0205 - Fair; "We hope that you have enjoyed listening to Radio St. Lucia..." sign-off announcement and anthem, under/over Colombia. [Conti-ME]
- 670 CUBA R.Rebelde, Arroyo Arenas OCT 10 0945 - Fair; nostalgic vocal // 5025. [Conti-ME]
- 670 VENEZUELA R.Rumbos, Caracas OCT 11 0200 - Good; NotiRumbos promo, salsa music. [Conti-ME]
- 680 PUERTO RICO WAPA San Juan OCT 11 0140 - Good; in-studio discussion in Spanish about human rights, in WRKO null. [Conti-ME]
- 690 ANGUILLA Caribbean Beacon, The Valley OCT 9 2250 - Good; Dr. Gene Scott preaching from Genesis. OCT 10 2150 - Good; het noted on low side. [Conti-ME] (It's easy to check the 6090 shortwave parallel to 690 - Jim)
- 690 CUBA R.Progreso, Jovellanos OCT 10 1000 - Good; R.Reló cut off for start of Progreso programming with anthem and "Radio Progreso, cadena nacional" ID, // 640, over Anguilla. [Conti-ME]
- 690 VENEZUELA Barquisimeto 690, Barquisimeto OCT 11 0135 - Good; "...de servicio, Barquisimeto Seis Noventa" and romantic vocals. [Conti-ME]
- 700 BRAZIL R.Eldorado AM, Sao Paulo OCT 10 2230 - Tentative; assumed this with a woman in Portuguese, quickly lost to Venezuela. Conditions simply weren't supporting reception of Brazil during what is typically prime time for hearing South America's largest country. [Conti-ME]
- 700 VENEZUELA R.Sur, Puerto Ordaz OCT 10 2245 - Good; "...de Radio Sur siete cientos, diferente" ID, Latino pop music. [Conti-ME]
- 720 VENEZUELA R.Oriente, Porlamar OCT 11 0130 - Good; speech about Venezuela economy

- and education, no sign of CHTN. [Conti-ME]
 740 PUERTO RICO WIAC R.Puerto Rico, San Juan OCT 11 0110 - Fair; Radio Puerto Rico IDs and telephone talk in Spanish. [Conti-ME] (I have been getting this one every night in Rochester - Jim)
 740 unID OCT 11 0835 - Fair; IDs as "Siete Cuatro Cero AM" and Latino pop music. [Conti-ME]
 740 VENEZUELA R. Maracaibo, OCT 13 0421 - in mess with Puerto Rico and domestics with ads for Maracaibo. [Renfrew-NY]
 750 VENEZUELA RCR Caracas OCT 9 2300 - RCR promo and Vivancia Natural program, good after WAAT sign-off. [Conti-ME]
 760 COLOMBIA RCN Barranquilla OCT 11 0105 - Good; "Colombia Argentina en directo por RCN" promo. [Conti-ME]
 780 VENEZUELA R.Coro, Coro OCT 9 2330 - Good; "Coro estéreo, Coro AM" jingle ID, Latino pop music. [Conti-ME]
 840 PUERTO RICO WXEW R.Victoria, Yabucoa OCT 9 2340 - Good; Radio Victoria ID and jingle, Latino pop/tropical music including hit by Radio Pirata. [Conti-ME]
 860 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC R.Clarin, Sto Domingo OCT 11 0020 - Fair; romantic vocals and ID in R.Enlace-Venezuela null. [Conti-ME]
 860 VENEZUELA R.Enlace 860, Valle de la Pascua OCT 11 0015 - Good; "Musicales 860" nostalgia program, UTC-4 time checks. [Conti-ME]
 940 PUERTO RICO WIPR San Juan OCT 10 0010 - Good; radio drama in Spanish. [Conti-ME]
 1020 TURKS & CAICOS CCR Grand Turk OCT 10 2310 - Good; religion in Spanish over KDKA. [Conti-ME]
 1080 VENEZUELA R.Barcelona, Barcelona OCT 10 0135 - Poor; ID and pop music under WTIC. [Conti-ME]
 1100 CUBA? 10/8 0336 UTC in Spanish, presumed a Cuban station mixing with WTAM, featuring news reports with many mentions of Cuba and Havana. WRTH 1999 lists two stations on 1100 kHz. Any help? [Rigas - IL] (The 1997 WRTH shows 1100 as Radio Taino. If this is what you heard, then the power is likely to be much higher than the other outlet. With Radio Angulo it is sometimes possible to find a parallel on one of the adjacent frequencies - Jim)
 1320 unID OCT 11 0700 - Fair; romantic ballads, repeated jingles that didn't even come close phonetically to anything in WRTH, listened past 0800 when CKEC became too strong. Maybe domestic; Hollywood, Florida? [Conti-ME]

TRANS-PACIFIC DX

- 594 JAPAN JOAK Tokyo, OCT 7 1403 - JJ tk by man, poor. NHK Radio One. [Woods-OR]
 693 JAPAN JOAB Tokyo, OCT 7 1357 - fair // 774 with EE lesson, "No one can make you feel inferior without your consent". Into news of Japan in EE at 1400. [Woods-OR]
 774 JAPAN JOUB Akita, OCT 8 1332 - good with EE lesson, "We have a cruise leaving in the afternoon and another in the evening". [Woods-OR]
 870 HAWAII KAIM Honolulu, OCT 7 1408 - fair to good with contemporary gospel music. [Woods-OR]
 1566 SOUTH KOREA HLAZ Cheju, OCT 7 1339 - Fair with talk by man in Asian language. [Woods-OR]

CONTRIBUTORS

- @Bruce Conti, Camden ME; R8A, MWDX-5, 75-m wire sloping southeast, unterminated 15-m triangular loop aimed east-west, ICE matching xfmrs, DieHard deep cycle marine gel cell.
 @Marc Delorenzo, Auburndale MA; JRC NRD-525 & Quantum Loop.
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 @Christos Rigas, Wood Dale, IL; Kenwood R-2000, SONY ICF-2010, Kowalski Loop.
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 @Jack Woods, Waldport OR; Lowe HF225E, Maynard ALN1 loop, active whip with Ratzlaff amplifier.
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 @Dan Ziolkowski, Cudahy WI (formerly of Hamburg NY, and suffering from Bills withdrawal).

SPAIN PLAIN IN MAINE

By Bruce Conti



Two extremely different nights of DX were experienced over the Columbus Day weekend while camping in Maine. Saturday night OCT 9-10 featured transatlantic DX, with mostly the usual stations from Spain, and a promising early sunset appearance of Norway on 1314 that quickly disappeared

with the sun. The typical sunrise boost of Caribbean and Latin American signals never really materialized with the exception of a few Cuban stations. The next night, OCT 10-11, was somewhat auroral with lackluster TAs and strong Latin American signals. However instead of getting stronger, southern signals seemed to weaken into the morning, leaving Canadian signals in the clear such as CHNC Radiomedia on 610, and the CBC stations on 540, 640, 750 and 1070. The absence of Mexico in the early morning hours perhaps better indicated the abnormal conditions. If I had known that conditions were going to deteriorate, then I would've listened during European sunrise for potential openings to France and West Africa instead of catching a couple hours of rest before American sunrise. Brazil was essentially a no show, the only real disappointment of the weekend. Albania loggings are listed as tentative, only because one abruptly left the air without any announcements, and I didn't have the patience to stick around for an ID on the other. Catching 100-watt AFN Azores on 1503 at sunset was a nice surprise. Puerto Rico on 840 was a new one for me. Loco the DX Cat slept through most of the action, preferring to chase chipmunks and birds during the day rather than chasing radio stations all night. His only DX interest was in tangling the fishing line, rope, and antenna wires during installation.



A WHALE OF A TIME IN NEWFOUNDLAND

By Jean Burnell

The Newfoundland DXpedition has started with a preliminary night of DX at Cappahayden. I was at the DX Inn to have a look around on Saturday. Part of the road "up the shore," has been improved since I was last on Highway 10, which is very welcome. Cappahayden does not seem to have changed at all, except there are fewer people and more dogs. The latter still seem to have big egos, so we should be careful until they get used to us. I brought much of my equipment and I set up 2 of the "usual" Beverages...the 1 km towards Brazil and a shorter one for Europe. I did not set up the K9AY as I had initially planned because in spite of checking lists twice, I drove away without the top part of the home-made mast! Anyway, that's what the dry-run is for, to make sure I don't forget anything major when we get going in earnest next week-end. I made a few interesting beachcombing finds, which are now on the DX Inn deck until there are clean/dry enough to take home, a vertebra and the jaw of a whale. DX conditions were rather poor by Cappahayden standards. The European wire was more productive. I was dismayed by the lack of the Brazilian tidal surge at dusk, and in the morning I found out why. The wire had broken about half way across the grassy meadow at the top of the hill, so the 2000 feet of productive wire along the beach was simply not attached to the radio. I was glad to discover this. All night I had been very worried that this major DX conduit might not yield next week. Overall, then, it's probably noteworthy that I did hear some Argentinians and even Ecuador on a sub-Beverage-length wire! (Jean's logs will appear later - Jim)

Formats

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Changes in programming status; reported by listeners

Welcome to your Formats column. I am happy to be doing it again, after a hiatus of ...well, quite a while. This is a collection of items sent by people, including Al Holtz, Paul Mount, Don Trelford in Jamaica...the real Jamaica, not where the LIRR has its big junction station, on Long Island, and my listening in New Hampshire, here, and between commuter trains and the Metro in Montreal, Miami, Washington, DC, and Baltimore.....Al has sent word that WWDB-860, in Philadelphia is back to being WTEL, as it was for decades, with the brokered material...as it was for decades before the Latin Contemporary and then talk showed up on that frequency. And he advises that, sadly, WWJZ-640 has suffered the same fate as did WQEW-1560, the wonderful big band music has been replaced by rap, rock, and preadolescent kids screaming "Cool". Yes, Disney buys another station. Here in Metro New York, WGSM-740 is simulcasting WHLI-1100 with live assisted adult standards (they have DJ's)...for a while it carried the Disney rug rat radio. This makes sense as WHLI's signal goes primarily out to sea and WGSM covers the island including areas not reached by WHLI, most of Connecticut, and can be heard at sunset as far north as Concord, NH.

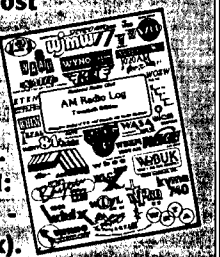
Ann and I have bought a small condo in Campton, NH, about 120 miles north of Boston....only one local, WPNH-1300, a 5000 watt daytimer, which is airing satellite-fed Music of Your Life, simulcasting WFTN-1240, down the road in Franklin. A NH change - WKBR-1250, Manchester, has dumped the One on One Sports (guess the Astros and the Pistons did not have much of a following in NH!) format for the appealing SMN Real Country format. At the condo, Canada and the NY clear channels thunder

in at night, including CJMS-1040, Longueil, PQ, a mix of French and English country music!
Here is what is on hand now....more to come soon, as I have an envelope from Jerry Starr.....

600	CIQC	PQ	Montreal	- Talk and sports, "Canada's First Radio Station".
800	CHAD	PQ	Montreal	- News, talk, full service for Montreal.
900	WEGM	PA	Philadelphia	- All Spanish, bought by Mega.
910	WRKL	NY	New City	- Now all Polish, // WNVR-1030, Vernon Hills, Illinois; ironically, the directional signal from a 2 tower array goes north, AWAY from the Polish areas of Newark and NYC!
920	WCHR	NJ	Trenton	- All religion.
990	WNTY	CT	Southington	- Rock music and again, brokered Spanish!
990	CKGM	PQ	Montreal	- "Oldies 990", blasts all over Quebec!
1040	WJHR	NJ	Flemington	- "Chat Radio 1040 AM" local news and talk.
1040	CJMS	PQ	Longueil	- French and English country music!
1170	WDIS	MA	Norfolk	- Noted with religious programming.... Al Holtz notes that WDIS is part of the Catholic network - more on that in the next column.
1250	WREN	KS	Kansas City	- Now all sports.
1260	WBUD	NJ	Trenton	- News, nostalgia, only Trenton AM station to make it to the local Arbitrons!
1300	WIMG	NJ	Ewing Township	- Black gospel.
1310	WSSJ	NJ	Camden	- Bought by Mega, Spanish "Clasico 1310", Salsa, Merengue.
1340	WTYS	FL	Marianna	- Classic Country and NBC News.
1340	WIRY	NY	Plattsburgh	- full service news and information and adult standards.
1350	WHWH	NJ	Princeton	- Business news.
1360	KFDJ	AZ	Glendale	- // two FM's "The Edge", modern rock.
1360	WKAT	FL	North Miami	- Spanish and some French programming at night.
1400	WLLH	MA	Lowell - Lawrence	- Sold to Mega, allSpanish.
1420	WWSR	VT	St Albans	- Adult standards "Best Music ever made".
1430	WTTT	MA	Amherst	- Modern rock // 100.9.
1430	WNSW	NJ	Newark	- was WNJR, live assisted adult standards.
1440	WGVJ	SC	Greenville	- Now Spanish contemporary "La Brava".
1450	WOCN	FL	Miami Beach	- Sone French at night.
1460	WEWO	NC	Laurinburg	- Gospel and CNN News.
1470	WMMW	CT	Meriden	- Dumped brokered Spanish for satellite-fed soft oldies 1950's to 1980's.
1490	WIKE	VT	Newport	- Country music "Stereo 1490".
1570	WBUX	PA	Doylestown	- all Catholic radio, this former great full service station for Bucks County is gone...with a call change I believe!
1600	WPOM	FL	Riviera Beach	- Some French at night.
1680	WTTM	NJ	Trenton	- ESPN Sports.

This was the first effort on Microsoft Word, and the first to be sent over the net.....heaven knows what it will look like when PLS gets it! (You don' wanna know! -pls.) Like a new train or a new, well-managed radio station, we get better with experience. Meanwhile, please send your format changes to me at akftrain@aol.com!!

The NRC AM Radio Log, 20th Edition, is compiled from both members reports and from official sources so that it is the most accurate listing of U. S. and Canadian AM stations available - and it includes Expanded Band stations. Cross-referenced, 3-hole punched for standard binders. Still only \$16.95 to U. S. and Canadian members; \$22.95 to U. S. and Canadian non-NRC members. Airmail to members: Europe, \$25.00; rest of the world: \$28.00. Order from: NRC Publications - Box 164 - Mannsville, NY 13661 (NY residents, please add sales tax).



Target DX

Dave Braun dcbraun@delanet.com

863 Allabands Mill Rd.

Camden Wyoming DE 19934-2132

DX'ing 'smart', with shared tips and requests by NRC members

Russell Edmunds <wb2bjh@hotmail.com>: Pardon my being "behind" on this, but I've only just hooked into the listserv. I wanted to add a few comments to what's seemed to be an ongoing discussion on these topics as printed in DXN. Today, everything seems to have to be bigger, faster, more powerful, so why not station powers? The goal is to reach an ever larger potential audience to generate larger revenues. The technical aspects of propagation and antenna patterns aren't clear to a lot of people, so why station ownership? Similar principles apply to formats - larger audience, more potential program niches, thus various flavors of "oldies". In today's radio, narrow formats coexist with broad ones, and between the local stations which have been mentioned before and public radio, have replaced the former mandatory public service programming. Like anything else, the people who want a given kind of programming, if they are reasonably numerous, can probably find it except in very sparsely populated areas. There is no need for mandatory public service programs, but part of the reason is also that they had very few listeners no matter when they aired, so broadcasters naturally put them where they had the fewest listeners no matter what they programmed, which, years ago, was Sunday AM's when most people used to be attending religious services. I don't know that anybody liked that solution. The idea of stations charging local governments, etc. for airtime for PSA's seems rather extreme to me, though. While the idea of a separate channel or channels for low power or very low power stations is a good idea IMHO, it isn't likely, for the very reasons already presented. As a longtime avid GY DX'er, I'd love to see it, too, because I agree that the increases to 1 kw fulltime has really only made the GY's worse. Plus, if the gradual population of the X Band is an indication, it'd sure be fun to DX a few new local channels the same way!

In response to Fred Vobbe's post of the Juno ad for an AM antenna:

Ragnar Danneskjold <1wdxer@juno.com>: This is the Terk AM Advantage antenna you can find in any store selling electronics. I have no idea if it is any good.

Here's an update from the manufacturer on the CCRadio:

William G. Harrison <wgharrison@ibm.net>: Just received the following info in the mail dated September 22, 1999 from C. Crane Company:

"Dear Valued Customer, We have been notified that the early units of the CCRadio have a defect. Based on when your radio was purchased, it is unlikely, that your radio is affected. WHO IS AFFECTED: IF YOU HAVE A RADIO WITH A SERIAL NUMBER BETWEEN 980000001 AND 980015200, THERE IS A PROBLEM WITH YOUR RADIO THAT YOU MAY WANT TO HAVE REPAIRED. IF THE SERIAL NUMBER ON YOUR RADIO IS ABOVE THIS RANGE, NO FURTHER ACTION IS NECESSARY. THE PROBLEM: If the Weather Alert is set to come on, and you are tuned to the AM band, the Weather alert will not sound the warning siren if it is activated by NOAA. This problem is limited to the AM band while the radio is "ON". The weather alert works great on the other bands or while the radio is turned off. If you use the Weather Alert feature while listening to the AM band, please send your radio to us for this warranty repair. To help us expedite your repair, please call us toll free prior to shipping the radio and use the included return label. Please allow 2 to 3 weeks for repair. The repair is simple, but it needs to be done by a qualified repairman. If you do not intend to use the Weather Alert feature and you want to keep the radio as it is, please apply the enclosed warning sticker to page 11 (top, right corner) of your instruction manual to inform future users. If you have sold or given the CCRadio to another person, please pass this information along to that person. We apologize for any inconvenience. Please contact us if you have any questions."

Their toll free number is: 800-522-8863. I didn't see any note of this reported problem on their crane.com and ccradio.com websites.

Doug Smith <w9wi@bellsouth.net>: Since I know there are people here very interested in such things...I stumbled across a Radio Shack AM stereo tuner for auction on eBay tonight. (TM-152 AM-AM-Stereo Tuner -pls)

Ragnar Danneskjold: While they do an OK job with the AM stereo part, the RS TM-152 may be the deafest radio for DX I have ever used. Even after peaking it is still pretty poor. However if you have a local AM stereo station, this will do the job.

Doug Smith: Very true. It sounds great (at least if you have a well-engineered stereo station like WSM in your backyard) but is not a DX machine.

Fred Vobbe <fredv@nrcdxas.org>: Is there external antenna inputs on the back of the radio for AM? **Ragnar Danneskjold:** Yes there are and it helps, but it still is not a good performer even with an outdoor antenna. I think it was designed to be this way and that they wanted it to be more like an FM receiver. If you can't hear too far, you don't get a lot of noise.

Paul Swearingen <PlsBCBDXER@aol.com>: Actually, I've had fairly good luck with confirming several Mexicans as having AM stereo in the past with the TM-152. It is indeed somewhat less sensitive than your better DX receiver, but I feel that the main feature that keeps it from being a DX machine is its broadband tuning. If it had a switchable bandwidth, like the SONY SRF A-100, it might be half-decent for DX'ing.

Doug Smith: "Is there external antenna inputs on the back of the radio for AM?" Yes. I don't remember if I've ever tried to use them. (if that were overcome, the poor dial calibration would be the next problem - though it's no worse than a Superadio)

Fred Vobbe: I'm just wondering if a good quality loop antenna or tuned wire would help. I'm not looking for DX as much as I'm looking for quality of signal for airchecking.

Ragnar Danneskjold: Nope. It is very susceptible to noise. If you have to plug it into the wall, you get whatever @@@p is in the line. Your SRF-42 is better.

And now for some information on Beverage antennas:

Patrick Martin <mwdxer@webtv.net>: Hi. I have been using Beverage antennas on the Oregon Coast for years. A question has come to mind. Does anyone know if the only reason to terminate a beverage is to kill the signal off the other end? In other words, are there are other advantages to having a beverage terminated? I have one running to the North and to the South is pretty much ocean. California is more SSE. Ideas anyone? Thanks.

Wayne Heinen <Nrclog@aol.com>: To my knowledge and everything I've read the termination is to kill the back lobe of the figure 8 -> creating a uni-directional cardioid type pattern...My guess is terminating the beverage would kill off any "residual" from the other end.

Patrick Martin: Thanks. That is what I thought too.

Frederick R. Vobbe: Wayne, if you have a wire going north and south, and you're at the south end, where does the signal favor? North or South? I thought Al Merriman was in the list and could drop some hints on this. I thought he did something with beverages where he fed a DC voltage in the wire to control a variable resistor at the end. That would be nice to hear about.

Paul Swearingen: When we set up beverages in the Mojave Desert, we were unable to terminate them due to the soil conditions (rocks, sand, more sand, creosote bushes, more sand, hi). Nevertheless, we did experience a fairly sharp null to either side (90 degrees) of each beverage, even without termination. On the other hand, stations on the back side tended to come in, too, so perhaps the termination is to kill the signals from the back end, rather than the sides. Greg Hardison and I straightened up one antenna to the southeast and improved its nulling capabilities considerably. I think I have a copy of Harold Beverage's original article on his research from the mid-'20's somewhere. When I get time (ha!) I'll try to remember to see what he said about it. (Thomas Giella and Bruce Conti tell what termination is for -pls.)

Thomas Giella <kn4lf@webtv.net>: The grounding of the far end of the beverage antenna makes it unidirectional. The incidental additional benefit to unidirectional receiving is reduction of noise. Another good receiving antenna for broadcast band dxing if room is more limited, is the EWE antenna.

Bruce Conti <BACONTI@aol.com>: Regarding the terminating resistor of a Beverage antenna, yes the termination reduces pick up off the back side. An unterminated Beverage antenna's direction of reception is the same as the direction of the wire. In other words, if the antenna wire runs north-south, then the direction of reception is north-south. Think of the Beverage antenna as a traveling wave guide. Radio waves travel down the wire path, i.e. if you're walking on a north-south path, then you can't go east or west. Reception on a terminated Beverage is in the direction of the wire from the receiver connection. In other words, on a north-south Beverage wire, direction of reception is from the north if the receiver is connected to the southern end of the wire. (The termination is attached at the north end.) I believe that the terminating resistance is typically around 500 ohms. Steve Byan of BADX developed a method of terminating a Beverage antenna with a photoresistor IC called a Vactrol. This allows a termination to be precisely tuned by remote control, rather than having to run back and forth adjusting a potentiometer. In rocky or poor soil, a system of ground radials can be used with the termination. Typically, a length of about 250 feet of wire continuing in the direction of the Beverage wire will provide a good ground for the terminating resistor. This method has been used successfully at the Newfie DXpeditions.

Fred Vobbe: "I think I have a copy of Harold Beverage's original article on his research from the

mid-'20's somewhere. When I get time (ha!) I'll try to remember to see what he said about it." That would be good information for all of us. FYI, I don't know if this is interesting for DXers because it's a small antenna, but I purchased one of the B&W antenna on special for my ham shack. I noticed that it was more quiet on QRN than the dipoles on 3.5 to 15 MHz. I'm thinking of making one a little larger for my AM and trop band DX. The one thing I noticed was that in phasing them, against a Superloop900 (remember those?), I could get more readability because of the lower noise floor.

Mark Durenberger <mrkdrnrbgr@state.net>: When you're nuts like I am, you tend to come up with other ways to terminate from afar. How about a radio-controlled race-car drive train, moving a rheostat back and forth? It worked...and gave us the ability to vary the termination from 2000 feet away...but we never really saw a whole lot of front-to-back difference in that situation? Also: I'll bite; What's an EWE antenna?

Patrick Martin: Hi: Thanks to all who answered my question on the beverage. Much appreciated.

John Sampson <jsampson@uswest.net>: Thomas - What's an EWE antenna?

Bill Hale <phantom2@eaze.net>: Isn't that EWE antenna for listening to WBAA, the Sheep Station on the Wool Network :-)

Thomas Giella: The EWE antenna is like a mini beverage antenna. It's end fed into 9:1 balun and terminated by a resistor (500-1000 ohms) at the far end. It's made up of two 10 foot vertical sections and a 50 foot horizontal section. If you have more room a 20/100/20 configuration works even better. The front to side ratio is not as good as a full length beverage but better than any other kind of outside antenna if room is a problem. It's a widely used receiving antenna on 160 meters by Hams.

Mac <Kr01a@aol.com>: Following received from SV3AQR, John, Amalias, Greece via amateur radio packet message: Dear Listener..Amalias, Greece medium wave (1584 KHz) station transmitting again after 4 years of silence. The team who repair and power on the M.W. transmitter wants the help from listeners all over the world! Your help will be appreciated! Send your SWL-Report to: SV3AQR, John P. Theofilopoulos, Box 30, Amalian 27200 GREECE or via packet to: V3AQR@SV8RV.ZAK.GRC.EU or via e-mail to: sv3agr@packet-g.cti.gr

Here's some college football information. Some are network lists, some are only flagships, depending on the info I have. Let me know any updates to this, any lists you may have, or any lists you want to see. This information comes from www.Big12Sports.com, www.bigeast.org, and www.c-usa.org.

Alabama-Birmingham	Cincinnati	Houston	102.3	KCZQ-IA
1070 WAPI-AL	700 WLW-OH	740 KTRH-TX	103.5	KNEI-IA
			104.9	KLMJ-IA
Army	Colorado	Iowa State	105.5	KDLS-IA
1260 WBNR-NY	KRAI-CO	950 KOEL-IA	105.9	KRNQ-IA
	580 KUBC-CO	1170 KJOC-IA	107.1	KCCQ-IA
Baylor	KCSJ-CO	1240 KBIZ-IA		KDSN-IA
KCRS-TX	690 KRGS-CO	1250 KCNZ-IA	107.3	KIOW-IA
700 KSEV-TX	KTWK-CO	1300 KGLO-IA	107.7	KICD-IA
820 WBAP-TX	KOA-CO	1310 KDLS-IA		
KIXZ-TX	980 KGLN-CO	1350 KRNT-IA		Kansas
1150 KCCT-TX	KSIR-CO	1370 KLBA-IA	690	KGGF-KS
1160 KENS-TX	1230 KBCR-CO	1380 KCIM-IA	790	KXXX-KS
1240 KVLF-TX	KFOR-NE	1400 KVFD-IA	910	KINA-KS
1340 KOLE-TX	1400 KBZZ-CO	1430 KASI-IA	980	KMBZ-MO
1370 KJCE-TX	KSHP-NV	1440 KCHE-IA	1130	KLEY-KS
1510 KAGC-TX	1460 KKPR-CO	1490 WDBQ-IA	1240	KIUL-KS
1580 KRZI-TX	93.3 KSEC-CO	KOSR-IA	1290	KWLS-KS
92.7 KJAK-TX	93.5 KALQ-CO	1580 KCHA-IA	1320	KWLN-KS
KEYR-TX	KYSL-CO	1590 KWBG-IA	1340	KSEK-KS
94.1 KAJI-TX	100.5 KRSJ-CO	1600 KLGA-IA	1370	KGNO-KS
100.1 KPYN-TX	104.7 KNNG-CO	KCRG-IA	1400	KVOE-KS
103.1 KPAS-TX	106.1 KNFO-CO	95.1 KCZE-IA		KAYS-KS
104.9 KYCX-TX	107.9 KBKL-CO	95.7 KQWC-IA		KSHP-NV
105.1 KEAN-TX		96.5 KSOM-IA	1420	KJCK-KS
	East Carolina	97.7 KCLN-IA	1440	KMAJ-KS
Boston College	98.3 WCZI-NC	KHBT-IA	1450	KWBW-KS
850 WEEI-MA		99.5 KKMA-IA	1460	KKOY-KS
		101.1 KXIA-IA	1480	KQAM-KS

"Radio's a minor player now in news, compared to television and newspapers," said Vernon Stone, a professor emeritus at the University of Missouri school of journalism who has studied radio news operations nationwide.

Radio has been a part of Toledo since the turn of the century, when Dr. Lee DeForest did experiments here that led to the beginning of station broadcasting.

At first, Toledo radio meant amateurs erecting unwieldy aerial antennas around their homes in an often vain attempt to hear some distant signal.

Then, on April 21, 1921, the first real radio station arrived in Toledo, when Earl Frank fired up a 10-watt transmitter in the Navarre Hotel at Jackson and St. Clair streets. His station, which he called WTAL, started transmitting less than six months after the first commercial station in the country, Pittsburgh's KDKA.

WTAL struggled along for six years, with no set programming and little listenership. It was often easier for local listeners to catch programs from out of state than to hear tiny WTAL. Easiest to hear were the two major Detroit stations, WWJ and WJR, then owned by the Detroit News and Detroit Free Press, respectively. The two, which would go on to become Detroit institutions, were broadcasting 5,000-watt signals.

At the time, radio was an exciting novelty. Stations were starting all over the country, many with signals strong enough to reach far and wide. Known now as heritage stations, outfits like WGN Chicago and WJZ New York sent entertainment and news to thousands, and began to organize into networks like National Broadcasting Co.

The largest stations, broadcasting at between 10,000 and 50,000 watts, were known as clear channel stations - because competing stations on their frequencies were not allowed for some distance around them - and could be heard many states away from their source.

Throughout the 1920s, *The Blade* ran a daily radio page reporting the stray signals local listeners picked up from cities like Houston or St. Louis.

Those clear channel stations were the first time Americans, previously divided by geography, could have the same experience at the same time: listening to jazz from a New Orleans station, hearing the inauguration of a president, or laughing at the jokes of New York vaudevillians. It was one of the first steps toward the creation of a nationwide popular culture.

In 1927, Toledoan George B. Storer was trying to jumpstart his own business, selling gasoline to motorists. In search for more ways to advertise his product, which he called Speedene, he decided to buy WTAL, change its call letters to WSPD, and flag it "the Speedene Station."

Speedene never made Mr. Storer a fortune, but broadcasting did. He made WSPD the eighth affiliate of the new Columbia Broadcasting System and, over time, added 10 other radio and television stations to his media empire.

For years, radio was king, and its networks were the only national medium.

When major news like the Hindenburg disaster broke, radio got the news out instantaneously.

World War II made celebrities of news reporters like Eric Sevareid and Edward R. Murrow, with his famous introduction - "This is London" - of his newscasts from bomb-battered England.

In was in this era that some of Toledo's radio news legends were born, men like Mr. Uebelhart, who died last year, and his afternoon colleague on WSPD, the late Edward C. Kutz. To many Toledoans, if one of them didn't say it, it wasn't true.

When civil defense officials needed someone to be the "voice of Toledo" on all radio stations in the event of an air raid, they chose Mr. Uebelhart because his was the best-known voice in the city.

Radio was the main source of breaking news for people for probably 30 years, said Dr. Michael R. Gerhard, a professor of telecommunications at Ball State University and a former radio reporter. "That obviously changed."

The first blow to radio news occurred in the 1950s, according to experts, with the growing mainstream popularity of television. Radio's ability to get the news out instantaneously was suddenly trumped by the flow of pictures into American homes. The big stars of radio news, like Murrow and Sevareid, moved to the tube, and television men like Walter Cronkite became the trusted voices of news.

"Television pushed radio right to the sidelines," Dr. Gerhard said.

WSPD-AM got into the television business early, starting WSPD-TV in 1948. It was only the 28th TV station in the United States. The stations shared a news staff until 1954, when the two were split.

WSPD-TV eventually became WTVG, Channel 13, and the two stations are now separately owned.

But even with TV as competition - along with *The Blade* and the *Toledo Times* - AM radio news still fared well. As recently as two decades ago, there were four radio stations in Toledo with active reporting staffs: WSPD, WOHO, WCWA, and WMHE.

"At press conferences, we'd usually have reporters from at least two or three radio stations there," said Harry Kessler, mayor of Toledo from 1971 to 1977. "Radio was a force.

"I remember back when I ran for city council for the first time, back in 1961, and I was losing," Mr.

Kessler remembered. "I was listening to the radio and I knew I was in trouble when Jim Uebelhart said on the air, 'Harry Kessler, who's that?' " Not surprisingly, Mr. Kessler lost.

Radio news reporters took pride in working for WSPD and its legendary team.

"It was fantastic working with Jim Uebelhart," said Jerry Arkebauer, who reported for WSPD from 1961 to 1964, before moving to the company's television station. "We were the No. 1 news radio station in town, and you were part of a group of people who were very good at what they did."

Mr. Arkebauer, now a vice president of the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority, said Mr. Uebelhart's 8 a.m. newscast was one of, if not, the top-rated radio newscast in the country, because no other station had a full 15-minute newscast at that time. "We had international, national, state, and local news, and we were far ahead of everybody else in town."

Kent Slocum, general manager of WSPD in the early 1970s, said the station was a key player in the local news market. "The Blade led the community in news, but SPD played an important role," he said. "We had qualified people and they worked hard. We had a real news ethic, a real commitment to accuracy. We didn't necessarily aim to beat the newspaper, but sometimes we did that too."

While WSPD was still the leader in its field, by the 1970s, fewer and fewer people were looking to radio for their news. One of the culprits: the FM band.

FM stereo, quite simply, sounds better than AM. It had been around since the 1940s, but most homes only had AM radio, leaving FM stations out of the mainstream.

But by the 1970s, more FM stations began popping up on the dial, and with the improved sound, more began focusing on music instead of news. As rock 'n' roll grew as an economic force, news became a less profitable format.

Not long after, in 1980, the federal government deregulated the radio industry. Until then, stations were required to have news and public service programming.

Before deregulation ended that requirement, many stations had their own staff of reporters, and most of the rest had newsreaders to recite headlines from the major wire services. But given the freedom to cut their budgets by eliminating news, many stations took the opportunity.

One by one, the other news stations in town started dropping their staff, first eliminating reporters, and eventually switching to just reading stories from wire services or other sources on the air.

"Things were competitive at the start of my time there," remembers Steve Jablonski, who reported under the name Mike Jablonski at WSPD from 1981 to 1989. "SPD had the biggest staff in the market, as it had traditionally, but there was still competition. Over time, though, that went away."

By the mid-1990s, WSPD was the only radio news game left in town.

Several other stations have news readers who give news updates, and some do reporting by phone, but none have reporters who gather news around town.

The final hit occurred three years ago, with the passage of the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. Among other radical changes, the act removed all limitations on the number of radio stations a company could own nationwide, and doubled the number of stations a company could own in a single market, from four to eight.

Stations that once were owned by small companies were suddenly under the control of large corporations. In 1996, WSPD was purchased by Kentucky radio conglomerate Jacor Communications.

Then last year, Jacor merged with Clear Channel Communications to create an enormous corporation with more than 400 stations. Then, last week, Clear Channel announced it was buying AMFM, Inc., for \$23.5 billion, which would result in a company with 830 radio stations nationwide.

With corporate ownership, radio stations began to have a more bottom-line focus, forever searching for ways to cut costs. News was often one of the first things to go.

"You've got fewer owners now, and they want a bottom-line, corporate focus," Dr. Stone of the University of Missouri said. "The dropping of the ownership rules lets one owner have a bunch of stations in one place, and they're not too keen to compete with themselves by having more than one news operation."

In August, 1998, WSPD's corporate parent decided to cut back on the news resources based in Toledo. Because Jacor owns news radio stations in several Ohio cities, the company decided to centralize its resources in one place to save money.

Since then, WSPD has had no anchors to read the news in Toledo. Instead, the news is written in Toledo and sent electronically to Columbus, where an anchor reads it on the air.

At the same time, WSPD's local staff declined. Throughout the 1980s and early 1990s, WSPD employed between eight and 12 news employees, including anchors and reporters. All but a few of the anchors did reporting when not on the air, meaning the station sometimes had up to seven or eight people reporting the news daily.

But with the shift of anchors to Columbus, the staff was cut back. Now, WSPD has two news employees: news director Tom Watkins and reporter Rob Wiercinski. Between the two of them, they are responsible for covering all of Toledo and its suburbs 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Mr. Wiercinski covers the morning shift, Mr. Watkins the afternoon. If news breaks on the week-ends or at night, they are on call.

Mr. Wiercinski is quick to point out that the new way of doing things at WSPD has some advantages. For example, the station used to broadcast a network news feed overnight because it didn't have an anchor to read local news in the wee hours of the morning. But with a news hub in Columbus, an anchor there reads Toledo news every half hour through the night.

"We actually produce more news product than we used to," he said.

He said having Clear Channel personnel throughout the state allows the station to have stronger coverage of state government and events in Cleveland and Cincinnati. And the anchors in Columbus "now know how to say 'Peter Ujvagi' or 'Wade Kapszukiewicz,'" he said.

But former WSPD reporters think that covering a city Toledo's size with two people is an impossible task.

"You can't cover the city like a blanket with a staff that size," Mr. Rudes said. "Rob Wiercinski is a very good reporter, but how thin can you be? This system of having the anchors sit in Columbus is awful. It's all bottom-line, say the news as quickly as you can and get done."

"You don't see a lot of the original reporting you used to see, the human interest stories and the interesting pieces that the other guy might not find," said Mr. Jablonski, now director of communications for Columbia Gas in Columbus. "With fewer people, you don't see as many original pieces, because the reporters don't have the time. You can only cover the fires, the shootings, and the council meetings."

Mr. Jablonski also pointed out that when a major story broke in the 1980s, he as news director could mobilize almost a dozen people to work on it. Now, there are only Mr. Wiercinski and Mr. Watkins.

The news gathering abilities of WSPD became part of debate last week when they became the subject of a very public legal battle. On Sept. 28, The Blade filed suit against WSPD and morning-show host Mark Standriff for allegedly stealing the content of its news articles. The station denied the allegations.

Many say the loss of active radio news operations is a loss for the entire community. Just as only large markets like New York and Chicago have been able to support more than one newspaper, only large cities like Detroit have been able to maintain thriving news radio, some say.

"Our staffing levels have been steady and are growing," said Steve Stewart, operations manager for WJR, the Detroit news radio giant, and a former news director at WSPD. "In the big markets, news radio has done very well as a format in recent years."

In smaller markets like Toledo, news is less of a money maker because of the costs of having a staff large enough to do a good job of covering the city.

"It's a lot tougher to make money doing news in radio than it is in television," said Dr. Gerhard, the Ball State University professor. "In TV, you have a few stations in each city with large audiences for news, so you can draw in lots of money for advertising. Radio is so fragmented that you're dealing with tiny audiences in a lot of cases."

Dr. Gerhard said nationally, local TV stations make about half their revenue from their news operations. For radio, the total is closer to a fifth, he said. News is mostly profitable for very large stations, he said.

"In a lot of ways, radio news is dead outside the major markets," he said. "Radio has much more of an entertainment role. It's kind of sad, but that's what the market has dictated."

"When I was in radio [in Indiana in the 1970s], there was a real excitement when you would compete with the other outfits or beat the newspaper to a story. Even small stations had two or three news people on staff. That's almost completely gone now."

The world of radio has changed radically in the 1990s. The shift to corporate radio has led to a programming uniformity that has pushed many, more eclectic formats to the sidelines, while generating massive amounts of money.

Many stations have discovered that local disc jockeys are more expensive than purchasing syndicated programs and, as a result, crude shock-jocks like Howard Stern have moved to the forefront, along with political commentators such as Rush Limbaugh and G. Gordon Liddy.

Many stations have abandoned DJs altogether, deciding instead to pipe in music from satellites.

Several former WSPD employees said they wish their old station would invest more in its news operation, hiring additional reporters and bringing back anchors. But most acknowledged that, with the changing face of radio, it's unlikely.

"It would be great if you could do more than just the basic news and have a large staff you could put out on the streets to bring back what's happening today," Mr. Jablonski said. "But the industry is more automated now, more interested in USA Today headline-type stuff. People might learn more about the community they live in if there were more resources thrown at news, but I doubt it'll happen."

Musings of the Members

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Times are local per Muse; submit double-spaced only.

Thoughts from NRC members ... 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.

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It's hard to believe, but October marks thirty years since I first joined NRC! Zowie, whatever happened to all those years??? I first joined NRC when I was a high school senior in Fort Mill, SC (Fort Mill later became famous as the home of Jim and Tammy Bakker's PTL Club). Since then, I have lived in Texas (Dallas), New York (the corner of Bleecker and Broadway, and later 205 third Ave.), New Jersey (Guttenberg, across the Hudson from West 76th Street), and California since 1987, first in San Diego and since 1998 in the Bay Area. Most of my serious BCB DXing was done in South Carolina and in San Diego. From South Carolina, my best DX was Hawaii (KORL-650) and Turkey-1016, while my best from San Diego was JORF-1422, JOKR-954, JOUF-1314, JOQR-1134, and Russia-963. Due to coastal mountains, TP DX from my present location is zero. The biggest change in BCB DX over the decades has been the incredible number of new domestic stations on all channels; it's hard to remember back to the days when some frequencies were empty of domestic stations on Monday mornings. If QRM was as bad 30 years ago as it is today, I doubt if I would have ever gotten interested in BCB DXing. Most of my domestic station "DXing" these days is done via the Internet using the RealPlayer G2 and station directories like RealGuide. For what's it worth, I own a Sangean CCR radio and am quite pleased with it. It is pricey, but it performs well in the RF-heavy environment of the SF Bay area. My main receiver is a Drake R8, which I purchased back in 1991 and have been very pleased with. My main AM antenna is a Quantum Loop. Professionally, I am an editor and the author of several books (check my name on Amazon.com sometime). I was co-founder of LLH Technology Publishing (formerly HighText Publications) and still own a third of the company. LLH began by publishing radio-related titles, but these were sold back in 1997 to Universal Radio. LLH now concentrates on high-end engineering titles (like our latest, "Digital Frequency Synthesis Demystified"). Since moving to California, I have become enamored of the Sierras and the High Desert (the northern Mojave/Indian Wells areas). I love hiking, camping, and exploring those areas—the next time you visit California, skip the usual tourist traps and spend a few days cruising on Highway 395; you'll be glad you did! Propagation in the California deserts is bizarre; for example, the loudest station on the AM band in Death Valley during winter daytime is KOAL-750 in Utah! I expect to eventually semi-retire to somewhere in the Sierras or High Desert, perhaps in Bishop or Ridgecrest. Other interests include ham radio, astronomy, computing, collecting Gilbert science toys from the late 1950s/early 1960s, collecting Rin Tin Tin movie and TV show items, travel, and music. I also have a collection of old tube receivers from Hammarlund, Drake, and Hallicrafters, including my first receiver (the Hallicrafter S-119) and the Drake SW-4A that I used when I first joined NRC. I still enjoy reading DX NEWS and wish everyone a good DX season!

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