

by then and we'll sit and chat until everyone is talked out. The convention will end on Sunday evening. Now, here's what to do:

1. Reserve your room at the Greentree Holiday Inn, 401 Holiday Drive, Pittsburgh PA 15220; Call: 1-412-922-8100. Be sure to tell them you want the "NRC Rate" @ \$75 per room (up to 3 occupants)
2. Convention Registration is \$45 and that includes the pizza party, the banquet, soft drinks and munichies during the three days in the Hospitality Room and, weather permitting, a trip to the history center.
3. Send all auction and "free" distribution items to John (PLEASE mark free items prominently so that they don't end up in the auction); 995 Shadycrest Rd - Pittsburgh PA 15216-3046.
4. Send your registration check, payable to "National Radio Club" to: John Malicky, 995 Shadycrest Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15216-3046. You can also register on line using PayPal at: www.nrcdxas.org.
5. The train station in Pittsburgh is only 4 miles away from the hotel; the taxi fee is \$25.

BROADCASTING INFORMATION

Robert Wien – 575 N Roadrunner Pkwy, Apt. 2103 – Las Cruces, NM 88011-2025
phone: 575-532-5005
Email: wienbob@aol.com

This time, IRCA welcomes Richard N. Allen of Billings, OK! Printed bulletin in 2 weeks.

ELECTION UPDATE

For those who have not already voted for their choice of the 2007-2008 Ted Vasilopolous Award (TVA) and Ric Head Award (RHA), the ballot and details were contained in the 15 March 2008 **DX Monitor**. Please take a moment to show your appreciation by voting for one of the candidates who have worked hard for IRCA. The ballot must be RECEIVED by the Election Committee Chairman no later than 0001 hours Eastern Standard Time, July 1, 2008. (Contact the ECC, Nick Hall-Patch, 1538 Amphion St., Victoria, BC, Canada V8R 4Z6 (or e-mail: nhp@ieee.org) if you do not have a ballot).

(Those subscribing to both the hard copy and electronic versions of the **DX Monitor** may vote by using the hard copy ballot OR by e-mail, whichever is the most convenient to you.)

PLEASE DO NOT DO BOTH. Thank you.)

IRCA Convention 2008 News

The 2008 IRCA Convention will be held in Flagstaff, Arizona on September 12-14 at The Days Inn, 1000 West Route 66, Flagstaff, Arizona 86001. The phone number for the Days Inn is 928-774-5221 and tell them that you are with the IRCA. I have a block of 20 rooms which they will hold until August 12 but after that date the rooms will be gone very fast. So if you don't make your reservations by August 12 you will not get a room at the Days Inn. The room rates are \$65 for single, double, triple or quad. The registration fee for the convention is \$25 per person and you can pay at the door or sent it to me at the address below. The banquet will be held on Saturday night at Black Bart's Steak House in Flagstaff. There are many things to do in Northern Arizona and a few of them are: The Grand Canyon, Lowell Observatory, Wupatki National Monument, Meteor Crater and Sedona. So start now and make your plans for the 2008 IRCA Convention in Flagstaff.

Bill Block, 7716 E. Thelma Drive, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314 billblock@msn.com

NRC Convention 2008 News

Friday, August 29 - 31, 2008. 75th Anniversary - National Radio Club, founded in 1933. What better way to celebrate the Diamond Anniversary than to get back together in the familiar surroundings of the birthplace of modern broadcasting. And can you believe it? The city of Pittsburgh is celebrating its 250th anniversary this year, too!

The host will be John Malicky; one of NRC's most experienced convention leaders. Just look at what he's arranging. The Pirates baseball team will play on Sunday afternoon against Milwaukee - very appropriate for the 75th diamond anniversary - weather permitting.

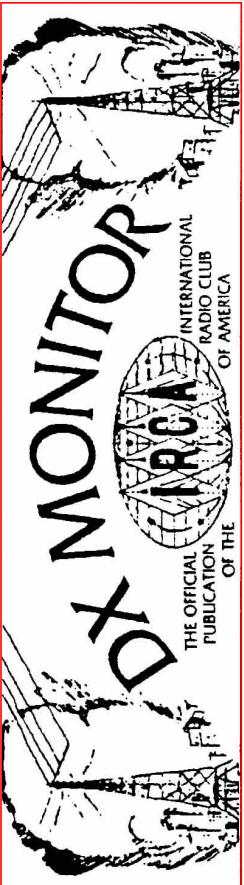
Plan to arrive early enough on Friday to take part in studio tour that afternoon, with a pizza dinner being served in the meeting room that night. The grand opening will be held at 7 pm on Friday with a presentation about the history of Pittsburgh rounding out the evening.

Saturday morning will feature a tour of the Heinz History Center at 9 am, and you are invited to buy lunch at the Sports Rock Café if you wish. There will be transmitter tours in the afternoon for those who wish to get out and see what broadcasting in Pittsburgh is all about, and then, at 5 pm, the annual group photograph at the hotel. And, of course, there will be lots of time to sit and chat about DXing with other club members in the Hospitality Room.

The banquet this year will be in the Greenery Restaurant right there at the hotel. A business meeting will follow, and then the world-famous auction will round out the evening.

Sunday will open with the annual NRC DX Examination, and then, at 11 am, we'll depart for a boat ride to PNC Park, home field of the Pittsburgh Pirates, via the Gateway Clipper Fleet. The game that afternoon is against the Milwaukee Brewers at 1:35; tickets are \$14 each, and please reserve yours by letting John know that you plan to attend. Seats will be behind home plate on the 3rd level.

Back at the hotel, the Hospitality Room will re-open around 5 o'clock -- WNRG should be on the air



In This Issue:
Broadcasting Information...
Western DX Roundup...
Eastern DX Roundup...
DX World-Wide-West...
IRCA Technical Column...
IRCA Contest Update....
2
12
14
15
19
22

CALL LETTER CHANGES		
FREQ	OLD CALL	CITY
540	KNOE	Monroe, LA
690	XETRA	Tijuan, BCN
750	WLDR	Petoskey, MI
880	WNSG	Nashville, TN
900	WJUB	Brunswick, ME
960	WZRH	Dallas, NC
1020	KAXX	Eagle River, AK
1240	KSAC	Sacramento, CA
1320	KYHN	Fort Smith, AR
1330	WVNY	Ewa Beach, HI
1370	new	Ontario, NY
1400	KUNX	Bog Horn, NY
1430	WIL	Santa Paula, CA
1440	WJAE	St. Louis, MO
1590	KKZZ	Westbrook, ME
1650	KWHN	Ventura, CA
610	KQJM	Havre, MT
730	new	Grand Junction, CO
770	NEW	St. Louis, MO
790	KJRB	Spokane, WA
850	WPRV	Providence, RI
850	WNTJ	Johnstown, PA
850	WPFD	Fairview, TN
850	WQST	Forest, MS
910	WRFV	Wellborn, FL
900	WUAM	Watervliet, NY
920	WMEL	Melbourne, FL
930	WBCK	Battie Creek, MI
930	WSEV	Sevierville, TN
940	WQND	Shelbyville, KY
940	WGRR	Greenville, PA
950	WCNT	Potomac-Cabin John, MD
960	XEK	Nuevo Laredo, TA
980	WTIX	Winston-Salem, NC
1020	KAXX	Eagle River, AK
1030	XESDD	Tecate, BCN
1050	WDZ	Decatur, IL
1050	WSEN	Baldwinsville, NY
1150	KFXR	Port Neches, TX
1150	WFJO	Valdosta, GA
1160	WCFO	East Point, GA
1190	WWIO	Dallas, TX
1190	WWEB	St. Marys, GA
1230	WJEU	Worcester, MA
1240	KSAC	Sacramento, CA
1240	WJEU	Hagerstown, MD
1260	WBUD	Trenton, NJ

FORMAT CHANGES		
FREQ	CALL	CITY
rock	new	Havre, MT
adult standards	new	Grand Junction, CO
sports	adult standards	St. Louis, MO
news-talk	adult standards	Spokane, WA
news-talk	adult standards	Johnstown, PA
region al Mexican	adult standards	Fairview, TN
country	adult standards	Forest, MS
classic hits	adult standards	Wellborn, FL
adult standards	adult standards	Watervliet, NY
talk	adult standards	Melbourne, FL
adult standards	adult standards	Battie Creek, MI
adult standards	adult standards	Sevierville, TN
adult standards	adult standards	Shelbyville, KY
adult standards	adult standards	Greenville, PA
Spanish news-talk	adult standards	Potomac-Cabin John, MD
romantic	adult standards	New Laredo, TA
adult standards	adult standards	Winston-Salem, NC
adult standards	adult standards	Eagle River, AK
Spanish sports	adult standards	Tecate, BCN
adult standards	adult standards	Decatur, IL
adult standards	adult standards	Baldwinsville, NY
adult standards	adult standards	Port Neches, TX
adult standards	adult standards	Valdosta, GA
adult standards	adult standards	East Point, GA
adult standards	adult standards	Dallas, TX
adult standards	adult standards	St. Marys, GA
adult standards	adult standards	Worcester, MA
adult standards	adult standards	Sacramento, CA
adult standards	adult standards	Hagerstown, MD
Fox sports	adult standards	Trenton, NJ

790/1510: KGA 1510 Spokane WA and KJRB 790 Spokane WA swap formats Monday 4/7, as KGA becomes sports "The Fan 1510" and KJRB flips to news-talk.

920/1300: WMEL 920 Melbourne FL flips from talk to Catholic religion; the talk format moves up the dial to 1190. WMEL 920 Cocoa FL, which will pick up the WMEI calls as well.

1190: KFXR 1190 Sacramento CA flips from progressive talk to black gospel "Rejoice 1240."

1310: KTCK 1310 Dallas TX is at reduced power after a storm blew down three of its four towers.

1400/1590: KKZZ 1590 Ventura CA and KUNX 1400 Santa Paula CA swap (back) calls and formats, with 1590 becoming KUNX "Radio Formula" Spanish news-talk and 1400 becoming KKZZ with talk.

1450/1550: WVAB 1550 Virginia Beach VA and WBVA 1450 Bayshore VA have gone silent after a vandal torpeded their shared tower.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER AND CONTRIBUTOR LISTINGS:

Dale Park sends along the following from the Prescott Valley, AZ Daily Courier dated 3/6/08:

Coyote Radio is looking for DJs, Thursday, March 06, 2008
 Ever wanted to host a radio show? Well, here's your chance - and you can play whatever the heck you want. The Coyotes broadcasting from Studio A in the back of the Raven Café are offering any potential DJs one hour to control the airwaves at Coyote Radio AM 1670, the last week of March. To celebrate the two-year anniversary of the station's premiere on April Fool's Day, Coyote Radio will play host to "DJ for a Day" at the Raven Café from 8 am to 10 pm at the Raven on Saturday, March 15. The station will provide engineering assistance at the event and the following weekends through March to anyone wanting to record an hour-long show of music in virtually any genre using their own CDs or songs from the station's digital archive. "Since we do it pre-taped, if they make any mistakes or anything, we just back up, cut that out. What they end up with is a perfect-sounding show doing the music they love best," said Andrew Johnson-Schmit, Coyote Board chairman. "Even if you don't have a big music collection, we've got hours and hours of music of all styles, from opera to punk and everything in between." Local historian and Wickenburg native Parker Anderson recently recorded a show of all old-time cowboy and western swing music, Johnson-Schmit said. "He included different versions by other people who swore that they wrote it instead," said Johnson-Schmit. "Some of these shows are almost educational, like an NPR show, and some of them are just straight out rock 'n' roll DJ work." The station will start streaming the broadcast online on April 1, he said. Coyote Radio shows currently broadcast over AM 1670 during weekends, sharing programs with KJZA, and is the local affiliate for the "Democracy Now" syndicated news program. Coyote Radio entered into a partnership with Prescott College last year to train students in radio production and documentary work. RSYF for the March 15 DJ for a Day event at www.coyoteradio.org. The station is not charging for the program, but welcomes donations for non-profit community radio. (DP-HI)

Pat Martin sends along the following from Dan Sys from Corus Entertainment dated 3/14/08:
CORUS RADIO LAUNCHES INTERNET-DRIVEN RADIO STATION IN EDMONTON WITH iNEWS880, March 14, 2008

(Edmonton, Canada) Corus Radio will introduce a new concept to Canadian radio: iNews880, an internet-driven, 24-hour all-news radio format providing comprehensive and live news around the clock, launching in Edmonton on Tuesday, May 20 at 6 am MT. iNews880 will keep listeners informed with continuous 30-minute information packages featuring news, weather, traffic, business news, sports and hyper-local news from citizen journalists. A first for Canadian radio, iNews880 on the radio will be powered by iNews880.com, a website focusing on the critical news and issues that matter to Edmontonians in a true fusion of both media. Through blogs, community news coverage and i-reports, citizen journalists will provide experiential content for the hyper-local news coverage provided by iNews880. "Corus Radio's commitment has always been to provide credible and immediate news coverage to the people of northern Alberta and the world, on radio, online and on-demand," said Doug Rutherford, General Manager, Corus Radio Edmonton and Vice President, News/Talk Programming. "iNews880 will bring audiences news when they want it and how they want it, with their direct involvement." On both radio and Internet, user-generated content will ensure that iNews880 is interactive and grounded in the Edmonton community. Audience involvement will play an integral role in day-to-day content which will complement existing news coverage from staff journalists and news partners. "iNews880 marks an evolution in radio and we're thrilled to launch this format in Edmonton," said Syd Smith, Program Director, 630 CHED and iNews880. "Information technology gives our audiences an immediate opportunity to share local, provincial, national and global news from their perspective with other listeners around the city and around the world." iNews880 launches live on Tuesday, May 20 at 880 AM and www.iNews880.com. Corus Radio and iNews880 are owned by Corus Entertainment Inc., a Canadian-based media and entertainment company. Corus is a market leader in specialty television and radio with additional assets in pay television, advertising and digital audio services, television broadcasting, children's book publishing and children's animation. The company's multimedia entertainment brands include YTV, Treehouse, W Network, Movie Central, Nellyana, Kids Can Press and radio stations including CKNW, CKOI and Q107. Corus creates engaging branded entertainment experiences for its audiences across multiple platforms. A publicly traded company, Corus is listed on the Toronto (CJR.B) and New York (CJR) exchanges. Experience Corus on the web at www.corusent.com. For more information, please contact: Syd Smith, Program Director, 630 CHED/iNews880, (780) 440-6300. (PM-OI)

Pat Martin sends along the following from Dennis Vroom of Salmon Creek, WA dated 3/15/08:

From KOIN-TV
 PORTLAND – The employees at KXL radio may be a bit shaken Friday afternoon after an angry listener crashes his car into the office. It happened just after 1 pm at the offices on Southwest Bancroft Street. Preliminary reports say the driver intentionally backed his car into the offices because he was unhappy with the station's morning radio broadcast. No one was injured, but the suspect is still on the loose.

Dale Park sends along the following from the San Francisco, CA Chronicle dated 3/8/08:
 Saturday, March 8, 2008 (SF Chronicle), Judge ready to dismiss Michael Savage lawsuit, Bob Egelko, Chronicle Staff Writer

(03-07) 15:35 PST SAN FRANCISCO – A federal judge said Friday she's inclined to dismiss a lawsuit by conservative radio talk show host Michael Savage against a Muslim rights group that reprinted his attacks against Islam and called for an advertising boycott. Savage sued the Council on American-Islamic Relations in December, after the organization posted excerpts from an Oct. 29 broadcast in which he called the Quran a "hateful little book ... a document of slavery" and said, "I don't want to hear one more word about Islam. Take your religion and shove it." His lawsuit accused the group of violating Savage's copyright by posting more than four minutes of excerpts on its Web site without his permission. He also claimed that the group was engaged in racketeering, saying it poses as a civil rights organization but is actually a "mouthpiece of international terror" that helped to fund the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. The broadcaster's syndicated program "Savage Nation" has about 8 million listeners a week on 400 stations, including on KNEW-AM in the Bay Area. He said the Council on American-Islamic Relations was harming him by taking his statements out of context, urging visitors to its Web site to complain to his advertisers and using his material to raise money for illegal activities. The group called his claims about its activities preposterous, denied any connection to terrorism and said in court papers that Savage was trying to "intimidate and silence" the organization in retaliation for (its) criticism of his radio rants." Numerous companies have withdrawn their advertising from his program, the group said, including Sears, AT&T and Wal-Mart. Lawyers for the group said its use of Savage's comments to generate criticism was permitted by copyright law and protected by the First Amendment. At a hearing Friday, U.S. District Judge Susan Illston of San Francisco said that she found much of the organization's position to be persuasive and that she had tentatively decided to dismiss the suit. She added, however, that she would probably allow Savage to refile the suit and fix its defects, which she did not specify. Savage's lawyer, Daniel Horowitz, disputed the group's contention that its excerpting of his broadcast was protected by the legal doctrine of fair use, which allows portions of copyrighted material to be reprinted for the purposes of commentary, criticism or parody. Horowitz contended the organization had disqualified itself from protection because of its allegedly illicit motives and commercial use of the material. "It is speech, Mr. Horowitz," the judge replied. Thomas Burke, a lawyer for the Council on American-Islamic Relations, said at the hearing that the organization was entitled to exempt Savage's words for fundraising purposes. He cited a 1986 ruling by the federal appeals court in San Francisco allowing the Rev. Jerry Falwell's organization to use copyrighted material in a Hustler magazine parody of Falwell to generate contributions. Savage's lawsuit "is about punishing (the council) for exercising its First Amendment protected rights," Burke told reporters. E-mail Bob Egelko at begeleko@sfgate.com. (DP-HI)

Pat Martin sends along the following from the Hear 2.0 website dated 3/13/08:
 Black Friday for HD Radio

This week's Convergence conference in San Jose was a terrific gathering of broadcasters and their partners who feel radio's best days might very well lay ahead. No sticks in the mud, these. Rather, folks with brains and vision and a plan, or at least the hopes of developing one. This was no place for spin doctors and conventional wisdom. So I was not surprised when Kurt Hanson spoke on radios future with an emphasis on radio's inevitable future on the Internet. Not was I surprised when Kurt veered left to discuss - and dismiss - HD Radio. What fascinated me was the reaction. Any room full of HD radio doubters, nowadays. But the vibe in this room was remarkable for the eye-rolling and audible snickering that greeted virtually any mention of HD. Kurt disassembled HD's premise by dividing the total number of radios now in circulation by the markets in which those radios live and other relevant assumptions (I did something like this a while back myself). He arrived at the conclusion that the average HD radio advertiser in any given market could reach more prospects by standing at the bottom of their driveway and handing out flyers. In a panel session immediately following Kurt's lone ubiquity spokesman filibustered on his talking points, splitting one after the next, but the effort seemed surprisingly desperate. You could almost hear the sweat forming on his brow as he reiterated his case, oblivious to the thrashing that had just occurred. Although he described himself as Kurt Hanson's "evil twin," the feeling in the room was that he was at least half right. It left me feeling that a corner had been turned. That broadcasters understood new media presented scores of new opportunities, few of which had anything to do with selling newangled radios to consumers who don't want or need them. This should create great hope for those of us in radio: Hope that good ideas really will rise to the top. Hope that we're too smart to be taken in by pyramid schemes. Hope that those with a vested interest will be revealed for what they are. Hope that those with the interests of broadcasters and listeners and clients at heart will create the kind of future those constituencies demand and deserve. All along, HD radio was designed as the industry's counterpart to XM and Sirius. As the satellite titans near a merger (which I do believe will happen and could come any day now) in order to save themselves, as satellites control over one pocket in the dashboard accelerates, as another pocket opens up for all-things-Internet, HD radio will rapidly dim into obsolescence like the technological also-rans which preceded it. All technology is transitional, but some never make it to the transition. In this new media world, opportunities are actually less about "convergence" than about emergence. Chaotic storms of passion bring audiences together. Their whims and tools and discussions allow them to take the driver's seat. We are and always will be in service to them. HD radio was always about what the industry wants, not about what consumers want. That's why it was doomed to fail from the start. And, unless there's some remarkable consolidation prize embedded into the satellite radio merger decision, that day shall be Black Friday for HD radio. (PM-MR)

Ye editor sends along the following from Radio and Records dated 3/17/08:

From Monday 3/17 "Radio and Records" Disney Done in Fresno, By Kevin Peterson
 Radio Disney affiliate RAK Communications AM 1680 KAVTFresno has changed formats and call letters after their old expired on February 29. The new format is adult standards, with music from the '50s, '60s and '70s. The new calls are KGED, but the station is using the name "Legends 1680." The new programming is being provided by Dial Global, but construction is also underway on a new local studio for the station. (RW-NM)

Dale Park sends along the following from the Denver, CO Rocky Mountain News dated 3/6/08:

The Fan now can be found on FM dial. By Dusty Saunders, Special to the Rocky Mountain News, Thursday, March 6, 2008

The Scott Hastings and the rest of the KKFN crew now can be heard on 104.3 FM. The often-raucous sports talk of Scott Hastings and Alfred Williams abruptly replaced the smooth jazz sounds of Kenny G and George Benson at 1 pm. Thursday on KJCD-FM (104.3), Lincoln Financial Media, operator of KKFN-AM (950), moved The Fan, home of sports talk and Nuggets and Avalanche game coverage, to 104.3 on the FM dial. The Fan will simulcast on the two stations until March 1, said Bob Carl, vice president and general manager of the five LFMs Denver radio stations. A source said KPEN-AM, the ESPN outlet currently heard on 1600, will be moved to the much stronger 950 frequency when the simulcast ends. According to Carl, The Fan now is one of a handful of sports-talk stations around the country utilizing the clearer FM signal in local markets. "It's an exciting move which offers listeners of The Fan the new experience of tuning into sports talk and play-by-play with an FM sound," Carl said. He added the change offers the station's clients "an exceptional advertising platform." The change coincides with the addition of Dan Patrick's new syndicated sports show (9 pm to midnight weekdays) when it doesn't conflict with Avalanche and Nuggets coverage. The smooth-jazz format, while off the regular radio dial, can be streamed on the Internet at SmoothJazzDenver.com and also can be heard on HD Radio at 98.5-2. Arbitron audience ratings for the music format, which premiered eight years ago, have declined recently, Carl said. The Fan has been operating on the 950-AM frequency for 12 years. (DP-HI)

Pat Martin sends along the following from www.radio-info.com dated 3/17/08 (augments earlier info from KAVT from ye ed):

KAVT 1680 AM Fresno New Calls and Format

KAVT 1680 AM Fresno is no longer a Radio Disney Affiliate, the contract to carry Radio Disney expired on Feb 29. RAK Communications the owner of the station has changed calls to KGED and installed Dial Global's Adult Standards format with music of the 50's, 60's, and 70's. The station will be known as Legends 1680. A new local studio is under construction for the station, maybe they will hire some local talent as well. Good luck to RAK with the new station format. (PM-OR)

Ye editor sends along the following from the Orange County, CA Register dated 3/18/08:

LA MIRADA – A half-built radio tower, under re-construction after years of debate over the safety of its immediate clear but was believed to be construction-related, he said. Clear Channel, which operates KFI-AM radio, contracted with Seacomm Erectors, Inc., to build a 684-foot-tall tower at 16608 Trojan Way. Construction began on Saturday and had risen to about 250 feet by Tuesday when the tower came crashing down around 2:30 pm. The tower was meant to replace a 760-foot-tall tower that was toppled in December 2004 when a small plane crashed into the tower on approach to Fullerton Municipal Airport – less than two miles southeast of the tower. A couple was killed. In recent months, Fullerton airport and city officials joined with local pilots in protesting plans for the tower's reconstruction, saying it was too tall and would pose a hazard to pilots. They didn't want the new tower to rise more than 500 feet. The La Mirada City Council unanimously approved the new tower in January. KFI officials expected the construction would take about four weeks. Ashlock said it's not immediately clear how the collapse will affect that timetable. KFI continued to broadcast from a 200-foot-tall temporary tower on the same property, so the collapse did not interrupt the radio station's signal. The new tower will provide a stronger signal. (RW-NM)

Pat Martin sends along the following from Deane McIntyre of Calgary, AB dated 3/19/08:

Last year the move of CFWB-1490 to FM was approved by the CRTC however they were required to find another frequency as their proposed use of 106.1 was denied. There use of 99.7 MHz, 6kW, has now been approved so I expect that they will be gone from AM in the not too distant future. <http://www.crtc.gc.ca/Archive/ENG/Decisions/2008/db2008-64.htm>. Use of frequency 99.7 MHz by the new FM radio station in Campbell River.

1. The Commission approves the application by Vista Radio Ltd. to operate its new English-language commercial FM radio programming undertaking in Campbell River at 99.7 MHz (channel 259A) with an effective radiated power (ERP) of 6,000 watts. The applicant had originally proposed to operate its new station at 106.1 MHz (channel 291B) with an average ERP of 663 watts.

2. The applicant filed this application further to the Commission's direction in CFWB Campbell River, British Columbia – Conversion to FM band, Broadcasting Decision CRTC 2007-343, 30 August 2007. In that decision, the Commission stated that it would only issue a licence for this station provided that the applicant submitted, within three months of the date of that decision, an amendment to its application proposing the use of an FM frequency and technical parameters that are acceptable to both the Commission and the Department of Industry (the Department). (PM-OR)

Pat Martin sends along the following dated 3/19/08 (augments earlier KFI-640 info from ye ed):

Everyone on the list knows that KFI's 750 tower was hit by a plane on Dec. 19, 2004 and fell to the ground. And everyone has been waiting for KFI to rebuild its main tower. Yesterday, as construction of the replacement 650 foot tower -- with "Top Hat" was just about to reach the 300 foot mark -- a sudden "Single Point" tower failure caused the tower to again collapse. Only minor damage to some vehicles and a warehouse and only one worker with a minor injury. More to follow. (PM-OR)

Dale Park sends along the following from the Philadelphia, PA Inquirer dated 3/19/08:

WPEN to carry ESPN radio shows. By Michael Klein, INQUIRER STAFF WRITER
Sports-talk station WPEN (950) will become the local ESPN affiliate. The station will call itself "950 ESPN" and today will announce the first piece of its new programming: ESPN's national Mike and Mike morning

show, which retired Eagles lineman Mike Golic hosts with SportsCenter anchor Mike Greenberg. It's one of the top-rated shows in the country, heard on more than 300 ESPN affiliates and simulcast on ESPN2. Debut will be 6 am April 1. WPEN will air three of its four hours. The move breaks up WPEN's morning team of Glenn Foley and Michael Bradley. Foley was let go. Bradley and station manager Bob DeBos said today that Bradley would remain at WPEN in some capacity. Bradley said that reeling him from the morning show would allow him for time for writing. WPEN management said the rest of the station's lineup would be announced Friday. WPEN, a heritage station in Philadelphia, has aired a mix of local and syndicated sports talk since October 2005, with little success in the ratings. Among its target audience of men ages 18 to 49 in January's Arbitron ratings, WPEN drew a 0.7 share and a weekly cumulative audience of 61,800. Its competitor, WIP (610), pulled a 4.6 share and a "come" measured at 174,400. The bright spot in the ratings, afternoon host Jody McDonald, is expected to remain with the station, perhaps for a midday shift. McDonald's show drew 40 percent of total WPEN's cumulative audience among men ages 18 to 49 in the last ratings period. For all its national success, ESPN has had a tenuous link to the Philadelphia market. Nassau Broadcasting had a station running ESPN's national radio feed at 920 on the AM dial. In early January, Nassau moved the ESPN programming to its station farther north, in Flemington, N.J., at 1040 AM. That station now carries ESPN's New York programming. Contact staff writer Michael Klein at 215-854-3514 or mklein@phillynews.com. (DP-HI)

Pat Martin sends along the following from Dennis Gibson of Santa Barbara, CA re KFI-640 dated 3/20/08:

I assume you've heard that the replacement tower being constructed for KFI fell down yesterday, don't know when but at some point halfway recently they moved from the 200 foot auxiliary at the main site (25 KV) to running 15 KV from one of the towers that 1150 in LA used before going 50 kW:
<http://www.fyibusch.com/sites/2006/site-060804.html>.

Have you noticed much difference in signal strength? I just found out about the move today and after a couple of short sessions I think they're perhaps a little stronger from the new site, which is closer to me. I'm trying to find out the height of the old 1150 towers. (PM-OR)

Dale Park sends along the following from the Baltimore, MD Sun dated 3/11/08:
iBiquity gets state loan, stays in Howard, By Tricia Bishop, Sun reporter, March 11 2008
State taxpayers provided \$300,000 to help keep the creators of high-definition radio in Maryland, economic officials said yesterday. The complete article, can be viewed at: <http://www.baltimore Sun.com/business/bal-bz.iBiquity1mar1,0,2262813.story>. Visit <http://www.baltimore Sun.com/kftrx.com/kftrfallers.html>. (PM-OR)

Pat Martin sends along the following from Steve Howe dated 3/23/08 re KFI-640 (augments earlier info-ye ed):
Perhaps this has already been posted and I missed it. But if anyone is interested this site has photos of the recent KFI tower fall, including one of it actually going down.
<http://www.kftr.com/kftrfallers.html>. (PM-OR)

Pat Martin sends along the following from Dale Park dated 3/23/08:
Ye editor along with Dale Park sends along the following from the Palm Springs, CA Desert News dated 3/23/08:
March 23, 2008, Coachella Valley's beloved radio station is just moving on the dial, Rozene and Ric Supple, Special to The Desert Sun

During the last few months, some confusion has come about regarding our purchase of KMWXY-FM, the disposition of KDES-FM and KPTR-AM. We'd like to clarify what will be taking place and thank everyone for expressing their concern. As you will see, things will work out well for all the valley's listeners. In the next few months, KMWXY-FM will move to its original AM location on the dial, 1340, with the same wonderful and beautiful music format. We are pleased to keep the high standards set by Glen Barnett since 1962, as a traditional part of radio listening in the valley. KDES-FM will move to 98.5 FM and continue the Greatest Hits of the 60's, 70's & 80's. KDES has been a tradition in the Coachella Valley for more than 50 years, and we're proud to keep its high standards alive and well as the station begins its second half-century in music and good times. KPTR-AM, the Valley's Progressive Voice, will move to 1450 AM, replacing KGAM, which will cease operations. The popularity of KPTR has proven itself to be something desired by many listeners, and we are pleased to offer programming to those many new fans. As you can see, we are rearranging the locations of three stations on the dial and eliminating KGAM. Its programming was very similar to what we have on KPSI-AM, the conservative point of view in the valley. We sincerely appreciate the progressive side of talk, we feel it is better to provide both points of view on the airwaves in the valley. We great cooperation of Glen Barnett and the team at KMWXY, all of whom we respect and admire. We are pleased to clear up any confusion about the beautiful music station; it is not going away. It's our hope that all the fans of KMWXY will join us in welcoming them back to their original home at 1340 on the AM dial, when they officially go on the air in the near future. Thank you all for your support, and we look forward to continuing to bring you the best in radio programming in the Coachella Valley from RR Broadcasting. Rozene and Ric Supple are the owners of RR Broadcasting and The Camelot Theatres in Palm Springs, where they reside. (RW-NM)

Tim Noonan sends along his monthly list of FCC call changes, thanks Tim! (TN-WI)

Brought to you by: Radio World Newspaper, The Newspaper for Radio Managers and Engineers, DOU

Okay Sirius-XM

The Department of Justice has approved the XM-Sirius merger. After more than a year of deliberation, and examining reams of documents, the DOJ said in its decision today it decided "the evidence does not demonstrate that the proposed merger of XM and Sirius is likely to substantially lessen competition, and that the transaction therefore is not likely to harm consumers." The DOJ continued, "The division reached this conclusion because the evidence did not show that the merger would enable the parties to profitably increase prices to satellite radio customers for several reasons, including: a lack of competition between the parties in important segments even without the merger; the competitive alternative services available to consumers; technological change that is expected to make those alternatives increasingly attractive over time; and

efficiencies likely to flow from the transaction that could benefit consumers." The FCC has yet to release its decision. (PM-OR)

Dale Park sends along the following from the Pittsfield, MA Berkshire Eagle dated 3/20/08:

Imus returning to local radio on WBEC-1420 - By Clarence Fanto, Special to The Eagle, Thursday, March 20

PITTSTFIELD — The I-Man returneth. Iconic radio and TV talk-show star Don Imus, 67, will be back on the air. (could not access article via link on website-y ed). (DP-HI)

Pat Martin sends along the following from Deane McIntyre of Calgary, AB dated 3/26/08:
CBDS-690 Fukatawagan MB has applied to the CRTC to move to FM (102.5 MHz, 0.2 kW, 24.6 metres). Get this, 40 watt relay of CBW/K-FM (carries CBC Radio 1 network) before it is, too late!). Manitoba is on Central time so CBC network programming on CBDS-690 will be generally two hours ahead of CBU-690. I wonder what the CBDS xmitter site is contaminated with? PCBs from an ancient leaking oil capacitor in the xmitter? <http://www.crtc.gc.ca/ArchiveEN/Notices/2008/pb2008-25.htm#4>.

4. Pukatawagan, Manitoba, Application No. 2008-0320-7. Applied by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) to amend the licence of the English-language radio programming undertaking CBWK-FM Thompson, Manitoba. The CBC proposes to convert its AM transmitter CBDS Pukatawagan, Manitoba to the FM band to broadcast the programming of its Radio One service originating from CBWK-FM Thompson, in order to serve the population of Pukatawagan. The transmitter would operate on frequency 102.5 MHz (channel 27A1) with an effective radiated power of 200 watts (non-directional antenna reflector antenna height of 24.6 metres). The CBC advises that the FM transmitter is intended to replace its existing AM transmitter CBDS and that recently the Mathias Colomb Cree National Chief and Council advised the CBC that the CBDS site is contaminated and they will proceed to decontaminate it by June 2008. The CBC indicates that the FM transmitter needs to be operational by this date. The CBC is also requesting to amend the licence of CBWK-FM Thompson by deleting the AM transmitter CBDS Pukatawagan. (PM-OR)

Pat Martin sends along the following from radio-info.com dated 3/27/08:
The LaRues San Joaquin Broadcasting Co.'s KSTN-AM and FM have been sold to Independence Media Holdings of Dallas, TX for \$24.25 Million. Who would have thought it would happen? Changes, Changes, Changes... What's next for the two stations format wise? (PM-OR)

Pat Martin sends along the following from Paul LeFreniere of Grand Marais, MN dated 3/27/08:
Guess I have not been paying attention the past few weeks, but noticed tonight that WIL-1430 has changed to KZQZ. Lots of blurbs about history being made in the Gateway city on April 1st. Going to oldies. But they are already playing oldies. Another historic 3 letter call down the tubes. (PM-OR)

Dale Park sends along the following from the Edinburgh, Scotland Evening News dated 3/10/08:
Change of format in the air for Talk 107, By CHRIS MARSHALL

EDINBURGH's all-talk radio station could be set to change its format after the sudden departure of its programme director. Controversial DJ Mike Graham parted company with Talk 107 at the weekend. It is believed his departure could be a sign that the station is set to move away from the all-talk format. Mr Graham, who presented the independent Republic show every weekend from 9am to noon, said today: "We have parted company and we are currently negotiating an amicable settlement. I have had a great time there for the last two years and I will miss broadcasting to Edinburgh very much – but it's time to move on." The former newspaper editor joined the station as a presenter in February 2006 and became programme director later that year. Describing himself as "President of his own Independent Republic," his show was among the most popular on the station, and it saw him clash with politicians at both local and national levels. Mr Graham hit the headlines in November after swearing at guests during an event for a cancer charity. Marie Curie Cancer Care was forced to apologise after the outspoken presenter's outburst in front of an audience of 300 before he hosted a round of a charity quiz. He defended his actions, saying he had not intended to offend guests at the corporate Brain Game event and simply wanted to "iven it up a bit". In January, Talk 107 reported an increase in the number of listeners tuning in for at least five minutes during an average week. The station scored Scotland's biggest percentage increase between summer and the final three months of 2007. However, the rise of 20.7 per cent accounted for just 6000 more listeners – a total of 35,000 – as the available audience is only 1.2 per cent of the overall market. In contrast, Edinburgh station Firth One was listened to by 14.2 per cent of its audience – up from 13 per cent. It is understood that Mr Graham left after meeting the Talk 107's managing director Matt Allitt at the weekend. Mr Allitt has been managing director of the station since the departure of Peter Gillespie from the post in November. The station's other presenters include Respect MP George Galloway and former TV presenter Dominik Diamond. (DP-HI)

Dale Park sends along the following from the New York City, NY Daily News dated 4/1/08:
WWRL cuts liberally into Air America, By DAVID HINCKLEY
WWRL (1600 AM), flagship of the progressive radio network Air America for the last 18 months, dropped the flag to half mast Monday by bumping three Air America programs, including midday hosts Lionel and Thom Hartmann. (DP-HI)

Pat Martin sends along the following dated 4/2/08:
Copper Thieves Knock Radio Stations Off The Air

Copper thieves strike again; this time stripping copper pipe and wire from a radio transmission tower. The dangerous heist knocked two radio stations off the air. On April Fools Day, Dave Brewer usually plays a prank. This time he changed the format of the radio station. But on Monday, 1140 and 1160 AM really did go off the air. "On the way back from lunch we heard nothing and we thought, 'Uh oh, the storm must have gotten to it,'" Brewer, KCOT/KCLX manager, said. But when the engineer went out to the towers near 251st and State Line Road, it was clear this was not storm damage. "They took bolt cutters and took the locks to the fences at the tower bases, that's how they got into them," Brewer said. They took all the copper from two of the towers, probably sold as scrap metal and the thieves probably made a couple hundred dollars and since it happened in a rural area, it's unlikely there were any witnesses. Worst yet for KCOT and KCLX, the outage happened during the popular Alex Jones show. "When you displace him for any reason the phones light up like a Christmas tree," Brewer said. The crew has been scrambling to get back on the air and the

general manager explained the situation to listeners who could hear him. The engineers still have some fine tuning to do for the next day or so and they're asking listeners for some patience. "They could be hearing it on the moon for all I know and dearer than a doornail in Grandview," Brewer said. If you know anything about the theft, call police or the Tips hotline. And the thieves should return if the radio station is replacing copper tubing with steel, so they're not going to get anything if they return. (PM-OR)

Pat Martin sends along the following from Paul Walker, Jr. dated 4/4/08:
MAPLETON COMMUNICATIONS is swapping the formats of its Sports KJRB-A (790 THE FAN) and Talk KGA-A/SPokane on MONDAY (4/7), with the talk format taking KJRB's 790 AM slot and sports moving to KGA's 1510 AM signal. GONZAGA UNIVERSITY basketball remains on the 1510 frequency. The move comes two days before the SPOKESMAN-REVIEW begins feeding hourly news reports on the stations with market veterans DANN MITCHELL and DICK HAUGEN. Sincerely, Paul B. Walker, Jr., wallerbroadcasting@gmail.com. (PM-OR)

Pat Martin sends along the following from Martin Foltz of Mission Viejo, CA dated 4/7/08:
I've been out to the Palm Springs area several times in the past month and this past weekend I listened to the radio more and took down some notes. Dates are April 5-6.
Pat Martin sends along the following from Martin Foltz of Mission Viejo, CA dated 4/7/08:
I've been out to the Palm Springs area several times in the past month and this past weekend I listened to the radio more and took down some notes. Dates are April 5-6.

970 talk //1140
1010 Fox Sports
1140 talk //970 (and 1250 per their announcements)
1270 12-70 AM (Doe Setena AM), Spanish baseball on Saturday, Dodgers?

920 News Talk 9-20 KPSI Dodgers baseball on Saturday afternoon

1010 Fox Sports
1140 talk //970 (and 1250 per their announcements)

1270 12-70 AM (Doe Setena AM), Spanish baseball on Saturday, Dodgers?

1340 Progressive Talk, Air America

1400 Spanish religious music, Alpha Y Omega

1450 ESPN Radio on weekends, talk during the week, Angels baseball (PM-OR)

Frank Aden of Boise, ID sends along the following from the Boise, ID Statesman dated:

RADIO DEAL MAY SIGNAL THE END OF AN ERA

The Voice of the Broncos is saddened, but not shocked, by BSU's decision to change stations By Chadd Cripe, cripe@idahostatesman.com

Paul J. Schneider experienced a range of emotions Thursday when Boise State athletic director Gene Beilemaier called to inform him that KBOI would no longer broadcast Broncos football and men's basketball games. Disappointment. Sadness. A touch of disbelief. But never anger, and never shock. Schneider saw this day coming—the day his run of 35 years as the Voice of the Broncos might have ended. Boise State awarded its radio contract to Peak Broadcasting instead of Citadel, the company for which Schneider works. Citadel's KBOI had held the Boise State contract for 35 years. "It's obviously been a great part of my life," Schneider said. "Obviously I'm closely identified with Boise State." I feel bizarre right now, I kind of thought it was coming, but it's kind of like when you have someone who's not doing good and not expected to live long and when they die, you go "Whoah!" And that's kind of where I am." "I thought I'd do it until I turned into Harry Carey and I couldn't see anymore." Peak didn't name its on-air talent for the broadcasts which will air on KIDO (580 AM). Boise State will have input. "We haven't got there yet," said Kevin Godwin, the senior vice president of Peak Broadcasting. "We've got a whole mess of things to do now." Nobody was ready to call this the end of the Schneider era. It is possible, at least, that he could move to Peak and continue as the Voice of the Broncos. Schneider figures that possibility seems remote. Sandy Gamblin, the market manager for Citadel, figures Schneider called his last game when the Boise State men's basketball team lost to Louisville in the first round of the NCAA Tournament last month. "That would appear to be the case," Gamblin said. Schneider actually has connections at Peak, which has a couple of former KBOI employees in key positions including Godwin. "I have great respect for Paul J," said Godwin, who worked at KBOI for about seven years. "He's a class act, I enjoyed my time working with him... I don't know what's going to happen, but Paul J's one of my favorite guys." On-air talent was not a factor in determining the best radio bid, Bleymair said. However, it was difficult for the five-man committee to cut such lengthy ties with Schneider and KBOI, he said. Boise State fans often seemed divided over Schneider. Some loved his passion and considered him as much a part of the Broncos as Lyle Smith and the blue turf. Others lamented his tendency to make mistakes by calling the action a little too quickly. "He's been the Voice of the Broncos for 35 years and done a tremendous job," Bleymair said. "He's called every play we've had in those 35 years. That's obviously very significant and we're very appreciative to Paul J. for his dedication and his service." Schneider, 65, graduated from the University of Idaho in 1966 with a degree in communications and a dream of calling play-by-play. He arrived at KBOI in 1968 and practiced his craft by working high school games. In 1973, he became the Voice of the Broncos—the same year Boise State won its first Big Sky Conference title. He has been with the Broncos for a Division I-AA national title, seven conference titles at the Division 1-A level and eight bowl games, including the world-famous Fiesta Bowl. "People change jobs and move up to bigger schools, and I did all that without having to move," Schneider said. "I really enjoyed it. I got out with the assistant coaches and older players to parties. Then I started going out with the head coaches. Eventually I just wanted to be." And now he is struggling how to say good night. He was planning to retire from his morning radio show on KBOI this summer, but Thursday's news has him reconsidering. If he is finished, he could spend more time at his Montana ranch and with his wife, Tamara and 15-year old daughter, Natalie. "You always like to be able to control your own destiny," he said. "I see that big new press box sitting up there and I'll never work in it, and that's kind of sad". (FA-ID)

Pat Martin sends along the following from Doug Smith of Pleasant View, TN via NRC reflector dated 4/4/08:
A post on www.radio-info.com is reporting that XETRA-690 Tijuana has changed calls to XEWV. (PM-OR)

Dale Park sends along the following from the Palm Beach, FL Post dated 4/4/08:
Radio host Rhodes returns to West Palm, By CHARLES PASSY, Palm Beach Post Staff Writer, Monday, April 14, 2008. The Goddess has truly come home.
Following her departure from the liberal Air America talk radio network last week, controversial host Randi Rhodes is bringing her nationally syndicated afternoon drive-time show back to WJNO-AM 1290 in West

Palm Beach, starting today. But this time, she's not just being heard on WJNO, which is owned by media giant Clear Channel. She's producing the show from her former employer's studio. "We have our biggest star back," said WJNO Programming Director Brian Mudd. Dubbed "The Goddess" by her loyal listeners, Rhodes, who worked for WJNO for 10 years starting in 1994, gained fame for her tell-it-like-it-is brand of leftist politics. That prompted Air America to hire her when the network debuted in 2004. Rhodes stayed on their air at WJNO in the years that followed, but through Air America. She also became a national personality, seen on billboards and TV news shows. The bottom line, Rhodes says of her return to West Palm Beach: She'll still be her usual loud and feisty self on air. And she'll still be speaking to a national audience, not necessarily a local one. But she no longer has to schlep back and forth between New York and Palm Beach County, where she kept a home during her Air America tenure, to do what she loves. "I just grabbed my dog" and came to West Palm Beach, Rhodes said of her sudden decision to base herself round in the area. Her show is being syndicated by the Nova M Radio Network, an emerging competitor to Air America in the talk radio world. Well, the decision wasn't all that simple. Rhodes quit Air America after a high-profile dispute with the network that was covered by such media outlets as The New York Times and The Wall Street Journal. Air America suspended Rhodes on April 3 for making what network executives deemed "inappropriate statements" about Sen. Hillary Clinton, D-N.Y., at a recent comedy performance in San Francisco. Rhodes said the dispute was sparked by employment discussions with Air America and that her remarks during the performance weren't the integral issue. She added that when Air America suspended her, she thought it meant her contract was terminated. So she quit to "clear the way" for future radio opportunities. That was on Wednesday night. By Thursday and Friday, Rhodes was hammering out a deal with her new syndication company, talking to her 20-plus affiliate stations across the country about continuing to air her program (most have agreed to do so) and even going on Larry King's CNN show to discuss her situation. That left Saturday to fly from New York to West Palm Beach and Sunday to reacquaint herself with the WJNO staff and get her show up and running again. "What usually takes months took days," Rhodes said. The show will air in its usual Monday-to-Friday time slot of 3 to 6 pm, following Rush Limbaugh, who might be called the conservative yin to Rhodes' yang. The two are more than radio neighbors, however: Limbaugh is also based in Palm Beach County. (DP-HI)

Dale Park sends along the following from the New York City, NY Daily News dated 4/14/08:

Air America confident it's still on course, By DAVID HINCKLEY, DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITER, Monday, April 14th 2008, 4:00 AM

Like American Airlines, Air America insists it's still flying. Even though not everyone in radio would put it that way, WABC (770 AM) program director Phil Boyce, who has built the most popular newstalk station in the country, tends to get a bemused tone when the progressive network comes up. "You know, " he'll say, "if you guys didn't write about Air America, it would be invisible." After Randi Rhodes left Air America last week, Boston University offered media writers an analysis from professor Tomo Berkovitz, who said, "Without the press coverage no one would know Rhodes is gone. No one listens to her." Air America is aware of those dismissals. It's aware it has not yet mounted the powerful progressive challenge to conservative radio that it envisioned when it launched March 31, 2004. Air America isn't heard in several major areas, and many affiliates either have weaker signals than their conservative rivals or only carry some network shows. Its flagship in New York, WWRL (1600 AM), has only been carrying Rhodes, 3-6 pm, and Rachel Maddow, 6-8 pm, from Air America's weekday daytime lineup. Now the last original daytime host, Rhodes, is gone. At 3 pm today she becomes a competitor. It hasn't been an easy ride for Air America, which has too often made news for the wrong reasons, like financial problems. But the network vows it is here to stay, and will only get better and stronger. For all its missteps, it feels it has proven there is a radio audience for an alternative to Rush Limbaugh, Sean Hannity and other conservative talkers. "I can't tell you how many calls I get," Rhodes said last year, "from people who say, 'Thank God you're here. I thought I was all alone.' Look at polls, look at elections. A lot of people in this country aren't Republicans." What remains to be seen is whether Air America, or other progressive talkers like Ed Schultz (now heard noon-3 pm on WWR), can mobilize their sympathizers on the radio the way conservatives are drawn to Rush, Sean, Mark Levin and Michael Savage.

The most optimistic argument for Air America is that it takes time - that conservative radio took more than a decade to reach its full prominence and that for every star it developed, a hundred others never broke from the pack. By that measure, Air America is still young, and the network feels it now has a lineup - even before it names a replacement for Rhodes - that can get traction. "Look, we've had problems," says a source at Air America. "But with the Lionel, Thom Hartman and Rachel, we're in better shape than ever. They're smart, entertaining and they know radio." (DP-HI)

Mike Sanburn along with Pat Martin send along the following from Paul B. Walker, Jr. dated 4/15/08:

Tiny little KBSZ 1250 Wickenburg, AZ which is about 50 Miles of Phoenix is moving under the new owners. The move was granted March 13, 2008. It's moving from 1250Khz with 350 Watts Day, Non Directional and 100 Watts Night Non Directional in Wickenburg To 1260Khz with 320 Watts Day Non Directional and 50 Watts Night Non Directional with the City of License as Apache Junction. It's proposing to use a tower just south of East Microwire Road. It looks like this might be an existing site already for another broadcaster. Wickenburg has 2 full power FM's licensed to it already, so it is "ok" to move the AM station. (MS-CA and PM-OR)

Dale Park sends along the following from the Redding, CA Record-Searchlight dated 4/2/08 with an addendum from 4/6/08:
Redding Radio drops ESPN, Music station KPIG to fill the former sports-talk slot. By Aaron Williams (Contact) Wednesday, April 2, 2008

The San Francisco Giants, the Sacramento Kings and sports talk radio in Redding are going bye bye, baby. Redding Radio will drop its ESPN affiliate, KNRC 1670 AM, April 18 in favor of KPIG, a music station. The decision was announced Tuesday by General Manager Ron Hren leaves a hole in the batting order for legions of some rabid sports talk radio fans. "We realize we can't have every (radio) format," Hren said. "We regret not having ESPN, but believe KPIG will be tremendous for our audience. We think it's going to cause a positive reaction." The first sign Mapleton Communications, owners of Redding Radio, was dropping the sports talk format surfaced Monday when the station failed to broadcast the San Francisco Giants opener for the first time in more than a decade. Redding Radio received more than two dozen phone calls asking

where the game was. The loss leaves a hole in the north state radio market. Gone will be ESPN stalwarts Colin Cowherd, Stephen A. Smith, "Game Night" and "All Night." Also gone will be the "Jim Rome Show." KNRO also airs Kings games. It used to broadcast San Jose Sharks hockey games and University of California at Berkeley football games, in addition to the World Series, NFL playoffs, the Super Bowl, and a host of college championships. It also delved into local sports when George Thrallson would broadcast Shasta College and high school games. Thrallson also created a local noon sports talk show, "The Cheap Seats," carried on KNRO program director Duane Davis as "In the Game," after Thrallson left for the East Coast. The closest ESPN affiliate is in Chico, which airs on 101.7 FM, while KNTK 102.3 FM in Mount Shasta, broadcasts Oakland Athletics games. Both signals are spotty in Redding. KPIG bills itself as "America" radio, with eclectic music and a live DJ. It originates in the Santa Cruz-Monterey area, but can also be heard on 96.7 FM out of Paradise, owned by Mapleton. "In the media business you want the largest audience," Hren said, "and in every market, we've had the same (positive) reaction." Hren said the move to the ESPN station wasn't a condemnation of sports talk radio, but that KNRO was a frequency the company felt it could better utilize. The change is among several since Mapleton Communications took over the six-station cluster. They include dropping Jim Albertson from morning duties on Oldies 105.3, dropping "In the Game" on ESPN Radio, and replacing "Don and Linda in the Morning" on K-SHASTA in favor of John Tesh's syndicated show. Redding radio legend Jerry McGee also was let go. And the morning format of KQMS, the cluster's news station, brought back Ray Roberts, only to switch formats less than six months into the "By the Way with Erin and Ray" show. Rick Healy, operations manager for Results Radio, said Redding's other radio cluster has not had any discussions about picking up the format on one of its stations. Sports Editor Aaron Williams can be reached at 225-8229 or awilliams@redding.com. (DP-HI)

Dale Park sends along the following from the Denver, CO Rocky Mountain News dated 4/6/08:
RADIO LINES: The Fan will continue to simulcast on KACD-FM (104.3) and KKFN AM (950), through the Nuggets and Avalanche seasons. Initially, the Fan planned to vacate the AM position March 31. "We think our fans and advertisers are very familiar with the AM frequency," said Bob Call, vice president and general manager of the local Lincoln Financial Group stations. "Well make the change later this spring." When that happens, look for KPEN AM (1600), the ESPN outlet, to move to the 950 position. So what happens to the 1600 frequency, often a broadcasting joke because of its poor signal? Possibilities include a return to classic country, a business radio format or ESPN in Spanish. (DP-HI)

(Note: One article from a contributor was not included in the column due to the controversial nature of the subject-YE Ed.)

Contributors:

Frank Aden Boise, ID (FA-ID)
Pat Martin, Seaside, OR (PM-OR)
Tim Noonan, Oak Creek, WI (TN-WI)
Dale Park, Honolulu, HI (DP-HI)
Mike Sanburn, Bellflower, CA (MS-CA)
Ye editor (Robert Wien), Las Cruces, NM (RW-NM)

DATE OF COLUMN: 4/15/08 Wow, one of the biggest columns I've ever typed, this one took over 4 hours to create!!! Keep those contributions coming though and keep me busy, hen. I am now settled into my new apartment in Las Cruces, started work Monday 4/7. Love it out here, very nice area. My new address is at the top of the column as is my new phone number, my Email address obviously stays the same, as does my ham call letters (though I am joining a ham club out here in the Las Cruces area). Today is tax day, hope DX taxes you more than taxes, hen. 73s.

WESTERN DX ROUNDUP

Nancy Johnson – 265 Waterton Wy – Billings, MT 59102-7755
E-mail: NancyJohnson@prodigy.net

WDXR DEADLINES: Friday May 2, Friday May 16, Friday May 30. Please use Eastern Time.

REPORTERS FOR THIS ISSUE:

(AB)	Art Blair -730 SW 3 rd St.-Fruitland, ID 83619
	NRD-515, Kiwa loop
(BB)	Bill Block -7716 E. Thelma Drive-Prescott Valley, AZ 86314 billblock@msn.com
(GH)	Glen Hansen -1925 Tualatin St.-St. Helens, OR skinner@columbia-center.org Terk loops
(PM)	Patrick Martin -P.O. Box 843-Seaside, OR 97138-0843 mwdxer@webtv.net Drake R8, SW EWE, WSW EWE, Quantum Phaser, 1500' Eastside Beverage
(NP)	Nigel Pimblett -P.O. Box 168-Dunmore, AB T0J 1A0 Kenwood R-5000, SDR-Q receivers, K9AY and Beverage antennas (NP-AB1) DXing at Lamont, AB with Beverages, R-5000 and SDR-IQ
550	KBOW MT, Butte 4/11 2149 C&W music, KBOW ID at 2151. Good with slight KOAC QRM. (AB-ID)
590	KID ID, Idaho Falls 4/11 2159 ad string, KID ID and Fox news at 2200. Fair/poor. (AB-ID)

600	KCOL	CO, Wellington 3/23 0100 poking through Saskatoon with ID and into Fox news. (NP-AB1)	
650	KMTI	UT, Mantle 3/23 0300 about even with Saskatoon with call ID and ABC news.(NP-AB1)	
730	KBSU	ID, Boise 3/23 0259 ID about a minute before the hour as "You're listening to KBSU Boise, then into piano music. (NP-AB1)	
750	KFQD	AK, Anchorage 4/13 0500 a surprise this late in the season and as strong as it is while I am typing this, tearing up KXL with spot for "Alaska's Trawlers," "tell 'em you heard it on KFQD." (PM-OR)	
770	KATL	MT, Miles City 4/7 0858 KATL ID, poor under KKOB & KTTH (AB-ID)	
790	KABC	CA, Los Angeles 4/12 0006 back-to-back KABC ID's, into Dodgers baseball. Poor under KSPD and KGHL (AB-ID)	
930	KTKN	AK, Ketchikan 4/12 0230 good on top with AC oldies and ID "930 KTKN." (PM-OR)	
960	KMA	IA, Shenandoah 3/23 0008 unusually coming over CFAC with "This is KMA, Shenandoah," then weather. (NP-AB1)	
1020	CIVH	AB, High Prairie 4/12 0230 good with oldies and "The Fox" slogan, alone on frequency. (PM-OR)	
1030	KMAS	WA, Shelton 4/4 0948 Grateful Dead song "Truckin'." KMAS ID at 0951. Poor. (AB-ID)	
1160	WYLL	IL, Chicago 3/28 2258 end of religious program, several announcements, mentions of "WYLL. Likely the best I've ever heard them, way over KSL. ID at the hour as "Chicago's Christian talk, 1160 WYLL Chicago" (NP-AB)	
1170	KJOC	IA, Davenport 3/28 2258 Cubs broadcast, with mentions of "Cubs Radio Network." Network ads took a 10 second break for station ID at 0302, but ID was missing. Noted mention of "Quad Cities" at 0306 commercial break. Did note an ID a bit later on. Main interference was KOWZ rather than regular Tulsa station. (NP-AB)	
1200	WRTO	IL, Chicago 3/28 2301 in Spanish with call ID just past the hour, after which it gradually faded under KFNW. (NP-AB)	
1240	KTIX	OR, Pendleton 4/1 2330 Mariners baseball post game show, ID. Very weak and choppy but alone. (GH-OR)	
1250	KZDC	WA, Colville 4/15 2315 faint ID in the fuzz and mix, very weak on R-388 with E-W wire. Heard before but not often. (GH-OR)	
1260	WNDE	MB, The Pas 3/21 2359 dual 590/1240 ID with mentions of "Serving northern Manitoba" and "Arctic Radio news." (NP-AB1)	
1270	KLXX	TX, San Antonio 4/6 2200 with ID "KZDC 1250" then back to ESPN. (BB-AZ)	
1280	WGFB	TX, Seminole 3/29 2209 country music, sing "Real Country" jingle and ID as "KIKZ, KSEM" at 0212. (NP-AB)	
1340	KTPR	WI, Milwaukee 3/28 2255 Bucks basketball, ID as WSSP during a time out just after the hour. (NP-AB)	
1350	KTIK	IN, Indianapolis 3/28 2303 Suzuki ad, ending with mentions of local dealers in Anderson and Bloomington. (NP-AB)	
1360	KOHU	ND, Bismarck-Mandan 3/28 2256 Jim Bohannon Show, ID as "Super Talk 1270, KLXX-AM, Mandan-Bismarck," ads, into local news. (NP-AB)	
1380	KSRV	IN, Evansville 3/28 2300 though a jumble at the hour with ID as "Newstalk 1280 WGBF," then into ABC news. (NP-AB)	
1400	KTUC	KZNS UT, Salt Lake City 4/2 0020 sports talk, many "The Zone" slogans. Big and strong, like a local on R-390A with N-S wire. Day power? (GH-OR)	
1420	KUJ	CA, Mojave 4/17 0900 with "KTP1" ID. (BB-AZ)	
1430	KEZV	ID, Nampa 4/12 0020 D& sports talk. Weak over KRLC from time to time. (GH-OR) OR, Hermiton 4/5 0015 ID into C&W. Deep slow fades on R-390A with E-W wire. Mexican pest strangely absent tonight. (GH-OR)	
1450	KBKV	OR, Ontario 4/3 0000 ID into news. Very weak and barely above KRKO on SP-600 with N-S wire. Seldom heard. (GH-OR)	
1460	KZNT	AZ, Tucson 4/16 2200 with ID "KTUC Tucson." (BB-AZ)	
1480	KBMS	WA, Walla Walla 3/25 0030 faint ID in the soup barely above KITI and unl'd sports talker, on R-390A with N-S wire. Becomes a regular. (GH-OR)	
1490	KWOK	CO, Aurora 4/1 0845 with "Studio 1430." (BB-AZ)	
1500	WAKR	WA, Aberdeen 3/24 0905 in and out with KONP, coming on top at 0907 with time check during local news, "KBKW news time is 6:07," then ad and into sports and weather. (NP-AB1)	
1520	WPGM	PA, WPGM Danville, 4/14 0258, mixing with Spanish music, country music and talk, weather report, then "...fifteen seventy AM WPGM Danville." (KK-VA)	
1530	CKDO	ON, CKDO Oshawa, 4/12 0155-0305, mixing with talk, CKDO with oldies. 0259 "... kilohertz and at 107.7 megahertz celebrating over sixty years... radio... love oldies (KK-VA)	
1540	WGGO	PA, WGGO Akron, 4/08 0158-0302, mixing with English talk and SS station "News, sports oldies... WAKR". (KK-VA)	
1550	WFIS	NY, WGGO Salamanca, 4/9 0159-0259, mixing with English talk and Spanish station "you're listening to ESPN Radio fifteen ninety WGGO Salamanca..." into sports scores. 0259 AM "...ESPN radio... WGGO."	
1560	WFGS	WA, Fountain Inn, 04/05 0158, mixing with Gospel music station "...radio... right here on... weekday mornings on... WFIS". "WFIS" into talk on Clintons' tax returns. (KK-VA)	

Thanks to our reports this time. Nancy 4/19 2100

EASTERN DX ROUNDUP

Lee J. Freshwater – 414 SE 3rd St. – Ocala, FL 34471
E-mail: EDXR at AMLOGBOOK dot com

Deadlines: Saturdays 5/03, 5/17, 5/31, 6/14, 6/28, 7/12 and 7/26.

STARS OF THE WEEK

Kraig Krist
Manassas, VA
NRD 545, 1/2 VERTWHIP, 134 foot multi band antenna NW-SE
(KK-VA)
Willis Monk
Old Fort, TN
Drake R-4C, 149 LW

LOGGINGS

Pocomoke City, 4/6 1649-1705, Oldies "Your home for timeless favorites. Bob Lawrence here with you." ... tell them it's 540 WGCP ... 1700 ABC News... Now Timeless favorites." (KK-VA)
Lexington, 03/22 2334. At 2330 ID- "WLAP, news radio 630" then into FOX news. At 2334 a repeat ID and then into a return of Sean Hannity repeat program from St. Patties day. QRM from WMAL, Rapid QSB. (WM-TN)
Wartburg, 04/17 1820 "940, WEKO. Southern gospel at it's best!" playing gospel songs I don't know the name of. Very weak. (WM-TN)
Robertson. 04/07 2215, Two ID's given: "WNSI is ranked #1" and "WNSI AM and FM is number 1" Don't know if this was some type of transmitter test or what. No program detail was heard. QRM from a Spanish station, XEO?????. No Indianapolis, 04/06 2355-0105. Trying for CBA DX Test. Only heard WFNI with "ESPN Radio" "ESPN Radio. This is... Sports Center... ten seventy The Fan" "This is Indy Sports Center ten seventy . The Fan. WFNI Indianapolis" into ESPN Radio Sports Center. (KK-VA)
Hartford. 04/07 0335. Coast to Coast AM, w/George Noory w/KRLD. Dallas. 04/07 0332 "No one does it better, 1080, K-R-L-D." Mixed with WTIC and WJKJ. This station should not be heard here at this time of morning. They are not strong enough to dominate the frequency but are causing fits to WTIC. Probably doing transmitter testing. (WM-TN)
Kingtree. 03/23 2359. "Listen to (missed the names of the DJs) in the morning, on Stars 93.7" This station simulcasts with the FM. Soft rock style music. QSB and QRM. (WM-TN)
Jackson. 04/16 2230, ID at 2230, "WDXI, JACKSON" at a break in the Cardinals Baseball game. (WM-TN)
Athens. 04/17 1930 "Hear 'Kid Camando' every Saturday morning here on WYXI 1390, Athens" Then back into the program, "When radio was." (WM-TN)
Van Buren. 4/13 0300. mixing with talk and Spanish talk "This is KHGG." (KK-VA)
Oshawa. 4/12 0155-0305, mixing with talk, CKDO with oldies. 0259 "... kilohertz and at 107.7 megahertz celebrating over sixty years... radio... love oldies (KK-VA)

CKDO". (KK-VA)
Danville, 4/14 0258, mixing with English talk and SS station "News, sports oldies... WAKR". (KK-VA)
Salamanca, 4/9 0159-0259, mixing with English talk and Spanish station "you're listening to ESPN Radio fifteen ninety WGGO Salamanca..." into sports scores. (KK-VA)
Portland." QRM from KRXR, which seemed to jump in strength at 0902 (power change?) (NP-AB1)
Harbor's only sports radio station, ESPN Radio 1490 KWOK Hoquiam-Aberdeen. (NP-AB1)

1540 KMPC CA, Los Angeles 3/22 0857 in Korean, mixing with Spanish from KXPA, gave ID "Radio Korea" at the hour, and KMPC a short while later. (NP-AB1)
1580 KCHA IA, Charles City 3/15 2012 ID "...all the information you need, we're AM 1580, KCHA," then into Abba song. (NP-AB)
1680 KGED CA, Fresno 4/3 0947 man with "Legends, KGED" slogan/ID into music. Ex-KAVT. (AB-ID)

1580 KCHA IA, Charles City 3/15 2012 ID "...all the information you need, we're AM 1580, KCHA," then into Abba song. (NP-AB)

1680 KGED CA, Fresno 4/3 0947 man with "Legends, KGED" slogan/ID into music. Ex-KAVT. (AB-ID)

- 529 **ALASKA**, Level Island, 1126 3/30 aviation weather and cw "SQM" marker" good. (bp-WA 2008)
- 530 **ALASKA**, Adak, 1311 3/29 "ADK" beacon loud w/cw marker. (bp-WA 2008)
- 530 **CUBA**, 0512 2/29, Radio Enciclopedia fair w/slushy instrumentals & woman droning on in Spanish or presumed RVC1 with man in SS. (bp-WA 2008)
- 531 **UNID**, At both 1100 and 1200 Mar 30, heard 5 long pips on the hour (maybe a sixth lost in the noise?), but talk was just too garbled to ID anything. Suspect this was one of the Aussie stations. (NHP-WA 2008)
- 558t **JAPAN**, Kobe, JOCR 1401 Mar 30. After being in the murk at the top of the hour, this one faded up well with a couple of lively Japanese ladies talking and giggling. Splatter was still a problem even when this was at fair strength. (NHP-WA 2008)
- 558 **Fiji**, Radio Fiji 1, Naulu poor at 1256 Mar. 29 /639 which was always much better. (Hutton-WA 2008)
- 567 **AUSTRALIA**, Sydney, 1240 3/29, phone talk fair, "El Paso" song 1257, apparently the same program as 891 but delayed 1/2 hour. (bp-WA 2008)
- 567 **JAPAN**, Sapporo, JOBK, 3/29 1333 good w/man & woman in JJ //594. (bp-WA 2008)
- 567 **NEW ZEALAND**, RNZ Wellington fair with an Easter choir a week late 1341 Mar. 29, mixing with NHK1 some. (Hutton-WA 2008)
- 576 **JAPAN**, several NHK1 stations poor but parallel 594. (Hutton-WA 2008)
- 585 **JAPAN**, JOPG Hokkaido 1329 Mar. 29 poor //594. (Hutton-WA 2008)
- 585 **JAPAN**, NHK1 synchros, 1300 3/29 time pips, then talk, very poor. (bp-WA 2008)
- 594 **PHILIPPINES**, Tagalog on top of NHK1 at 1335 Mar. 29. (Hutton-WA 2008)
- + 1347 3/29 Filipino talk u/JOAK. (bp-WA 2008)
- + Fair 1359 Mar. 30 parallel to 594. (Hutton-WA 2008)
- 621 **NORTH KOREA**, Chongjin 1341 Mar. 29 poor-fair with opera program. (Hutton-WA 2008)
- 630 **AUSTRALIA**, 4ON Townsville assumed the source of DU English 13443 Mar. 29, often on top of the channel. (Hutton-WA 2008)
- 639 **AUSTRALIA**, 2HC Coff's Harbor assumed the one with Aussie EE mixing with Fiji 1252 Mar. 29. (Hutton-WA 2008)
- 639 **Fiji**, Radio Fiji 1, Drasa fair with regular Sunday choral music program 1222 Mar 29. (Hutton-WA 2008)
- + 1313 3/29 good w/Island music. (bp-WA 2008)
- 639 **JAPAN**, Oita, JQIP 1348 3/29 Japanese talk good //594, mixing w/Fiji. (bp-WA 2008)
- 639 **JAPAN**, Shizuoka, JOPB Pips then EE lessons //774 1400 3/29. (bp-WA 2008)
- + 1401 Mar. 30 with NHK2 stuff parallel 774. No sign of the NHK1 station. (Hutton-WA 2008)
- JAPAN/CHINA/RUSSIA**, 1400 3/29, NHK1 pips followed by pips from unid Chinese station, then Russia faded up w/news in Korean. (bp-WA 2008)
- RUSSIA**, Ussuriysk, 1100 3/29, V of Russia IS, then talk fair in 650 splatter. (bp-WA 2008)
- HAWAII**, Honolulu, KRTR 0545 Mar 29. Ad for a resort package, "proof of Hawaii residence required", followed by easy listening mx, presumably this one. Fair and dominant on channel. (NHP-WA 2008)
- + 0645 3/29 mixing w/mainland stations, string of local ads, 70s soft rock, "Hawaii's Place for Great Music, the All-new 650 AM". (bp-WA 2008)
- NORTH KOREA**, Kangnam, Pyongyang Pangsong, 1350 3/29 briefly strong w/rousing inst music 3/320. (bp-WA 2008)
- + 1350 Mar 30. Female operatic style vocal mx //3320, fair to poor in hum on channel. (NHP-WA 2008)
- 666 **JAPAN**, Osaka, JOBK 1342 Mar 30. Really fine signal //594, man talking in JJ.
- 666t **NEW CALEDONIA**, 1334 Mar. 29 maybe the source of poor to fair old fashioned songs that sounded like old French standards. (Hutton-WA 2008)
- 675 **JAPAN**, poor 1333 Mar. 29 with NHK1 programming. (Hutton-WA 2008)
- 684 **Fiji**, Radio Fiji 1, labasa, fair on peaks, parallel 639 1304 Mar. 29. (Hutton-WA 2008)
- + 1022 Mar 30. Chora mx followed by man talking in island language //639, fair fading to poor and back again. (NHP-WA 2008)
- NORTH KOREA**, 1351 3/29 inst music //657, briefly atop, then faded u/Fiji. (bp-WA 2008)
- 702 **JAPAN**, JOKD or JOFB 1318 3/30, weather, garbled ID by woman 1320, then language lesson fair. (bp-WA 2008)
- SOUTH KOREA**, Seoul, HLKA, 1355 3/29 man & woman in Korean good. (bp-WA 2008)
- + 1352 Mar 30. Woman in KK //1305, fair to good strength, with 710 splatter. (NHP-WA 2008)
- JAPAN**, Nagoya, 3/29 1400, fair w/time pips, NHK mention, then man w/news //594. (bp-WA 2008)
- 738 **FRENCH POLYNESIA**, 0651 3/29, instr music, decent carrier, low modulation. (bp-WA 2008)
- 738 **SOUTH KOREA**, Gyeongsan, HLKG 1400 3/29 ID by woman mentioning KBS & HLKG, time pips, then news in Korean. (bp-WA 2008)
- 760 **HAWAII**, Honolulu, KGU, 1424 3/29, fair string of ads, "Your Station for (garbled), AM 7-60 KGU", info inst music (bp-WA 2008)
- 792 **JAPAN**, 1324 3/30, NHK synchros //594 weak mixing w/1-2 other stations. (bp-WA 2008)
- 800 **ALASKA**, Juneau, KINY, 1000 3/29 fair-poor u/CKOR "...weekday mornings playing the SSB - not sure who that KINY Juneau" into ABC news, mixing w/a third station playing the SSB - not sure who that would be at 3 am PDT - not likely an east coast station signing on, and KPDQ was heard later so not them signing off. (bp-WA 2008)
- 837 **JAPAN**, Niigata, JOQK, 1100 3/29 pips, NHK mention, JJ talk fair-poor. (bp-WA 2008)
- 846 **JAPAN**, NHK1 synchros. 1154 Mar 30. Man & woman in JJ //594, fair at best. (NHP-WA 2008)
- 855 **NORTH KOREA**, 1422 3/30 //3320 w/inst music in IBOC hash from station on 840. (bp-WA 2008)
- 864 **JAPAN**, HBC synchros. (UOQ Muroran most likely?) 1318 Mar 30. Slow vocal mx //287, poor to fair, mixing w/K. (NHP-WA 2008)
- 864 **SOUTH KOREA**, HLKR Gangneung 1340 Mar. 29 with man talking in Korean // the other KBST outlets like 1305 and 711. (Hutton-WA 2008)
- + 1358 3/30 good w/man in KK, local ID by woman at ToH, then pips & man with news. QRM from unid station w/vocal music that continued w/o break at ToH (bp-WA 2008)
- 891 **AUSTRALIA**, Adeelaide, 5AN, 1228 3/29 fair w/Mary Robbins' "El Paso", then man giving phone number a couple of times, ABC news 0530, QRM from a second DU, probably Townsville. (bp-WA 2008)
- + Must have been the one with Marty Robbins' "El Paso" 1228 Mar. 29, as others noted Marty Robbins music on 5AN. (Hutton-WA 2008)
- 891 **AUSTRALIA**, Innisfail, 4TAB, 0951 Mar 30. Likely the one with man reading results of horse racing, good, fading to poor. (NHP-WA 2008)
- 891 **JAPAN** Sendai, JOHK. 1301 Mar 30. Man in JJ, good signal //594 if only briefly. (NHP-WA 2008)
- + 1328 3/30, male talk in JJ //594. (bp-WA 2008)
- 891 **SOUTH KOREA/JAPAN**, 1343 Mar. 29 fair, mixing evenly. (Hutton-WA 2008)
- 909 **JAPAN**, 1320 3/29 weather, unintelligible local ID, then Korean lessons, weak //1017. (bp-WA 2008)
- 918 **JAPAN**, unid, 1347-1352 3/29, laid back man in JJ talking on and on, then new age type music, QRM from Chinese echo chamber in background. (bp-WA 2008)
- 927 **JAPAN**, various NHK1 stations poor 1318 Mar. 30. (Hutton-WA 2008)
- 954 **JAPAN**, JOKR Tokyo fair with usual animated commercial station programming 1355 Mar. 29. (Hutton-WA 2008)
- 945 **JAPAN**, NHK1 outlets, 1405 3/29 JJ talk fair of CNR. (bp-WA 2008)
- 999 **NORTH KOREA**, KCBS Hamhung a little surprised to hear this given the so-so conditions. Poor non-deadcent music 1410 Mar. 29, about 50 Hz low. (Hutton-WA 2008)
- 1008 **JAPAN**, Osaka, JONR, 1300 3/29 fair w/3 pips+chime at ToH, also 1317 JJ talk w/ments of ABC & Osaka. (bp-WA 2008)
- + Good with a short segment entirely in English 1402 Mar. 29. Bothered a little by an unid str seemingly with Chinese mx. (Hutton-WA 2008)
- 1017 **JAPAN**, Fukuoka, JOLB, 1320 3/29 weather, local ID, then Korean lessons, fair. (bp-WA 2008)
- + 1334 Mar 30. Two gents talking in JJ, good strength //828 oloriental sounding female vocal mx and unreadable talk. (NHP-WA 2008)
- 1017 **PHILIPPINES**, fair Tagalog 1312 Mar. 29, but no ID to say which one. (Hutton-WA 2008)
- 1026 **AUSTRALIA**, 4AA Mackay assumed the source of what I'd call oldies (not EZL) at fair level 1407 Mar. 29. (Hutton-WA 2008)
- 1026 **PHILIPPINES**, 1344 3/29, religious talk in English and Tagalog fair, presumed DZAR. (bp-WA 2008)
- 1026 **UNIDS**, 1400 3/30, 2 sets of 3+1 pips, one of them delayed by about 0.1 sec, little else noted, probably NHK/KBS combo. (bp-WA 2008)
- 1035 **JAPAN**, various, 1320 3/29, theme music, then IDs in JJ & CC, fair-poor. (bp-WA 2008)
- + Very poor with English lessons 1407 Mar. 29. (Hutton-WA 2008)
- 1035 **SOUTH KOREA**, Ponang, HLCP 1400 3/30 "KBS... HLCP" ID by woman, 3+1 pips, KBS ID & news by man. (bp-WA 2008)
- + Poor but parallel to 1305 1424 Mar. 30. (Hutton-WA 2008)
- 1044 **CHINA**, 1300 3/29, CRI theme music, then IDs in JJ & CC, fair-poor. (bp-WA 2008)
- 1044 **SOUTH KOREA**, KBST1 outlets 1312 3/20 good w/Korean woman //1035. (bp-WA 2008)
- 1053 **SOUTH KOREA**, jammer 1231 Mar 30. Jammer playing its usual song, very strong on NW wire: The Japanese most likely was the one w/ woman talking, poking through the cacophony on the W wire. (NHP-WA 2008)
- 1062 **PHILIPPINES**, units 1338 3/29, 2 stations in Tagalog or similar language. (bp-WA 2008)
- 1071 **JAPAN**, JOFK Hiroshima and JOWM Sapporo mixing at fair level 1340 Mar. 30. JOFW was parallel 594 and JOWM was parallel to 1440. (Hutton-WA 2008)

1089 **UNID**, mixing with China at fair level 1330 Mar. 30. I was unsure in the end whether it was parallel to Korea 1305. (Hutton-WA 2008)

1098 **MARSHALL ISLANDS**, Majuro, V7AB. 1124 Mar 30. Truly immense carrier, with fair audio at this time, island style vocal mix. By the time of listed s/off at 1130, could hear man talking but it was unreadable in the splatter. (NHP-WA 2008)

1107 **SOUTH KOREA**, Pohang, HLAV, 1412 3/30 man & woman in KK, then Simon & Garfunkel's "The Boxer" briefly good. (bp-WA 2008)

1110 **HAWAII**, Kihei, KA0I, 1159 3/29, poor ukBND w/promo, call & Aloha mentioned.

(bp-WA 2008)

1116 **AUSTRALIA**, Brisbane, 4BC, 0826 3/30 good w/string of ads, "Brisbane's NewsTalk 1116 4BC" ID, then phone talk. (bp-WA 2008)

1134 **SOUTH KOREA**, KBS Hanminjok Bangsong, 1243 Mar 30. Woman talking KK, fair to poor //972, u/Japanese talk from assumed JOQR. (NHP-WA 2008)

1161 **TAIWAN**, 1400 3/30, BCC. Country network, Asian pop tunes, distinctive chimes & electronic IS, man in Chinese fair-poor. (bp-WA 2008)

1161 **TAIWAN**, 1400 Mar. 30 with chimes. Nice level overall. (Hutton-WA 2008)

1206 **CHINA**, Yanji, Yantian RGD, 1421 3/30 good w/woman in KK, 1300 3/30 distinctive IS, man & woman in KK, w/possible ID, seemed slightly off freq. (bp-WA 2008)

1215t **CHINA**, Guangdong, CNR7, 1257 3/30 woman in CC, pop music, 4+1 long tones at ToH. (bp-WA 2008)

1251 **RUSSIA**, Ussuriysk, 1259 3/30, V of Russia IS, then start of Chinese program. (bp-WA 2008) + 1359 Mar. 30 with IS to fair peaks. (Hutton-WA 2008)

1269 **JAPAN**, JOJR Tokushima must be the fair Japanese at 1308 Mar. 30 since it wasn't parallel to 1287. (Hutton-WA 2008)

1305 **SOUTH KOREA**, HLSV Uijin fair-poor 1307 Mar. 30 with man talking //711. (Hutton-WA 2008)

1332 **UNID**, 1030 3/30, DU EE male talk, then music, probably 4BU or NZ. (bp-WA 2008)

1350 **JAPAN**, Hiroshima, JOER, 1348 3/30, JJ talk mixing with domestics. (bp-WA 2008)

1377 **Russia**, Tavricheskaya, 3/30 1200-1345 various times, R Yunost generally atop CNR, woman w/news in RR 1200 otherwise mostly techno-pop music, including cover (in English) of David Bowie's "Let's Dance". Man w/ "Radiostanisty Yunost" ID 1229. (bp-WA 2008)

1386 **JAPAN**, NHK2 synchros, JOQC Morioka most likely? 1015 Mar 30. Man and woman talking in JJJ-828, fair to poor. (NHP-WA 2008)

1500 **HAWAII**, Honolulu, KUMU, 1423 3/29 fair-poor w/sports talk, no ID but it's the only thing that fits. (bp-WA 2008)

1503t **MICRONESIA**, Tofal, Kosrae, V6AJ. 1047 Mar 30. Nice laid back Island vocals, good to poor might have been this one. (NHP-WA 2008)

+ 1026-1047 3/30, good-nil with island music & male talk. (bp-WA 2008)

1512 **JAPAN** NHK2 synchros, 1406 3/30 JI talk //774 fair-nil in 1510 splat. (bp-WA 2008)

1548 **AUSTRALIA** Emerald, 4QD. 1032 Mar 30. Woman talking in EE //738, fair at best in lots of splatter. (NHP-WA 2008)

1548 **AUSTRALIA**, Emerald, 4QD, 1017 3/30 good w/Aussie talk. (bp-WA 2008)

1575 **THAILAND**, Ban Pachi, VOA, 1130 3/29, fair w/EE pgm, mention of VOA homepage, then interview. (bp-WA 2008)

1593 **TAIWAN**, Tocheng, Fisheries Broadcast Station. 1342 Mar 29. Woman singing a slow oriental sounding song, way u/strong talk from CNR1, but parallel with fine signal on 1143. Strangely, there was no sign of the outlet on 738 at this time. A new logging for me. (NHP-WA 2008)

+ 1343 3/30 weak ucNCR w/inst music //738. (bp-WA 2008)

IRCA TECHNICAL COLUMN

Nick Hall-Patch – 1538 Amphion St – Victoria, BC, Canada V8R 4Z6

E-mail: nhp@ieee.org

... where will be your next DX catch?



An article, "Emerging Techniques of High-Tech DXpeditioning" was published in the January 18, 2003 DX Monitor, and is available on the web at <http://www.dxing.info/articles/nitech.dx> and other sites. In it, the authors described how a DX'er could use the power of the personal computer for many DX related tasks. One of the DX assistants described was developed by the present writer, and was christened "DX Radar" by John Bryant, an author of the article. It used an early computer controlled receiver, the Dymek DR-333, to sweep through the entire MW band, extracting the signal strengths found on target DX channels (usually the 9kHz ones for North American DXers), and displaying the strengths using multiple arrow characters on a monochrome computer monitor.

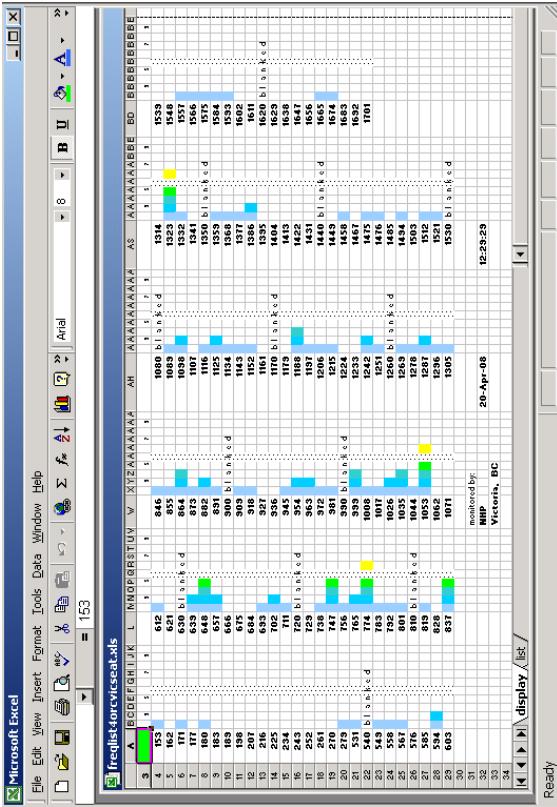
This device proved itself at a number of DXpeditions, advising DXers of active channels other than the one they were presently monitoring, but it had its shortcomings. The program that controlled the DR333 was DOS-based, usually required its own PC (it wouldn't necessarily work with the Windows

operating system), and the display was primitive-looking by today's standards. More importantly, it took around two minutes to properly scan the entire MW band, so by the time the signal strengths were displayed, they were often no longer very accurate; as we well know, DX signals tend to fade, both up and down. As well, it wasn't always clear how accurate the recorded strengths were. Sometimes, displayed signal strengths could be "pumped up" by sideband splatter and noise. Technology has moved on, but "DX Radar" hasn't moved much since it was developed in the mid-90s. It was really time to have a similar program that was easier to read, and updated more frequently and accurately.

With the advent of software-defined radios (SDRs), as opposed to computer-controlled radios such as the DR-333, some DXers have become accustomed to observing and recording swaths of the band, though until recently, that was limited to a couple of hundred kilohertz at a time. Looking at a spectrum or a waterfall display on one's PC allows the DXer to find potential DX between domestic channels. At writing, the Perseus SDR is capable of handling 800 kHz of any band at a time, with the possibility of even wider bandwidths in the future. At least one other unit, the Quicksilver QS1R, is aiming at being able to cover several MHz at once. But, even when such capabilities become commonplace, the DXer looking to find DX on channels other than his domestics will possibly find it difficult to pick them out when observing well over a Megahertz worth of potential DX at a time.

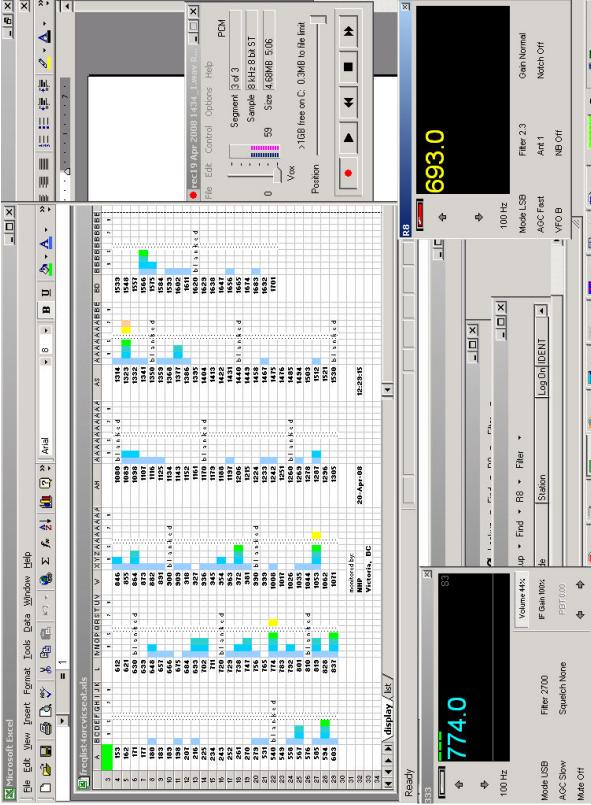
There seemed to me to be a potential for a successor to the "DX Radar" using one of the SDRs. As noted, no SDR at present will cover the entire medium wave band. However, the RFSpace SDR-14 was developed originally not just as a receiver but as a spectrum analyzer, and can display up to 30 MHz of RF at a time, even though it can only record and allow demodulation in a 190 kHz bandwidth. The "DX Radar" didn't need to display signal strengths, so the SDR-14 seemed to be a good possibility for what I ended up calling the "DX Fishbarrel" explanation to follow, if it isn't already obvious). As a further point in its favor, RFSpace has made available much of the source code for the SDR-14 at no cost.

There followed several weeks, spread over 6 months, of puzzling, going up blind alleys, and butchering a fair bit of Visual C++ code, but eventually, a useable successor to "DX Radar" took shape. Without further ado, here's what the output of this SDR-14 program (or combination of two programs, as is described later on) looked like at the beginning of an April sunrise enhancement from my Victoria listening post. As you can see, it shows relative signal strength for each channel using a multi-colored bar graph, covering all the way from the longwave broadcasters (if they're there), right up to 1701 kHz. The format is easy to read, and the display can update as rapidly as once every few seconds, as determined by the user. My experience is that signals that display past halfway on the bar graph (or "hotter" colored than green) will deliver some audio, while a full bar graph display will indicate perfectly readable audio. The blue colors represent signals that are only a carrier at that time.



If one has reasonable computer resources available, this pair of programs can be run along with other programs as well. I normally run Creative Express' "Ergo 4" (<http://swlidx.com/>) to control my Drake R8, while the trusty old Dymek DR333 is now used as a parallel receiver, also controlled by Ergo. In addition, audio is recorded on the PC from both receivers using ReoAll-PRO Pro

(<http://www.sagebrush.com/recpro.htm>). Bruce Portzer's Pacific Asian Log is running in the background, as are my hunt lists to provide references as needed.



When an unusual channel starts showing a lot of color, it takes only a second to tune the R8 to that channel using Ergo, and if the DX gods are smiling, an ID can be obtained using parallels. Otherwise, the hard work begins, but the audio recorder is already in action, if I've remembered to start it. Hence the "DX Fishbarrel", with the implied reference being to firearms applied thereto. I've been submitting morning bandscans to the IRCA list along with other DXers such as Dennis Vroom and Bill Block, and I'm pretty sure that the quality of my submitted bandscans has been improving of late, because I'm grabbing signals that are only available for a few minutes at most during the sunrise enhancement, and that the normal manual bandscan would almost certainly have missed. This DXer is not so much scanning, as leaping about, or, perhaps, shooting at those DX fish in the barrel.

How does it work?

As has been implied above, the "DX Fishbarrel" is composed of not just one, but two programs, and one of those you will probably recognize, from the screenshots above, as Microsoft Excel. The other program is, to be blunt, a bit of a hack, based on RF-Space's open source software. Perhaps if I can learn a bit more than the merest basics of Visual C++ Windows programming, something more elegant will be written in time, but meanwhile, this seems to be a reasonable proof of concept.

When one uses a software-defined radio, one usually can view a spectral display of the radio's receiving window, up to hundreds of kilohertz worth, depending on the SDR. The numbers represented on this display are computed via a piece of mathematics called a "Fast Fourier Transform" or FFT. Without going into detail, one can picture an FFT as being composed of a number of points, each of which represents the signal strength found at a small fraction of the total bandwidth being displayed, a single point, for example, could span the frequencies between 1691.975 and 1692.025 kHz. The SDR-14 program can deliver the signal strengths corresponding to each point of that FFT; these signal strengths are defined in decibels relative to a signal that would just overload the receiver.

Normally, the program produces a graphical display with the FFT points, but my version simply captures and processes the values, and has no display. It requests the SDR-14 to deliver 65536 points of an FFT, spread over a 3.3 MHz bandwidth, and centered on 1150 kHz, giving a resolution for each point of about 50 Hertz. As you can imagine, some of these points will correspond to the carriers of stations on 9 kHz channels. My program selects out the decibel value at each of those "9 kHz" points, along with some others which provide a noise reference.

The resulting signal to noise ratio at each of the 9 kHz channels is averaged over a number of scans defined by the user, then each of those signal strengths is saved to a simple text file, and the program goes back to sampling more signals.

As you might know, MS Excel can read a text file, and in this case, it opens the signal strength file recently saved by the modified RF-Space program, copies the values found there, closes the file, then uses the numbers found in that file to graphically display the signal strengths on each channel. This is

done through the application of what is called a "macro", which is a Visual Basic program generated by taking an Excel file and recording all the actions that you perform on that file, the macro then becomes part of the Excel file. I further modified the resulting Visual Basic program, so that when the macro is run from my Excel file, it repeatedly performs the actions described at the beginning of this paragraph, providing the display that you see above.

There is a lot of detail in both programs that isn't discussed here, in order to try to convey simply the basic workings of this method of reading an entire bands' worth of target signal strengths. If you're interested in trying to get a system like this working yourself, then you need an SDR-14 (sony, the SDR-1Q won't work for this, and nor will any other SDR I know about), a copy of Excel, and a reasonably good computer running XP or Windows 2000; I have no experience yet with Vista. I'm happy to discuss details at either the postal or e-mail address on the masthead.

2007-2008 IRCA Unlucky 13 DX CONTEST

Manager: Nancy Johnson - 265 Waterton Wy - Billings, MT 59102-7755
E-mail: NancyJohnson@prodigy.net

April 15, 2008 update
Phil Bytheway 93 **Nancy Johnson*** 136 **Dale Park** 44
Greg Hall 302 **Gary Kinsman** 125 **Dan Riordan** 123
John C. Johnson 19 **Tim Noonan** 250 **Mike Sanburn** 12

* Contest manager is not eligible to win.

We welcome Mike to the contest this month. The contest rules can be found online at the IRCA website, and also in the August 4, 2007 issue of DXM. Send me a note if you have any questions. Please, report to the appropriate editor any special loggings you hear while DXing for the contest! The contest runs until May 31, 2008.

The IRCA is a non-profit organization dedicated to the hobby of hearing distant stations on the Broadcast Band (510-1720 kHz). **DX Monitor**, the official publication of the IRCA, is published in "soft" form 35 times a year (weekly from November through March, twice monthly from April to November) and in printed form 30 times a year (weekly from November through March, monthly April to November). **DX Monitor** contains members' loggings, articles on radio stations, receiver reviews, technical articles, DX tips, and other material of interest to Broadcast Band DX hobbyists.

CLUB OFFICERS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

e-president: Doug Pifer – 7148 Marley Ln S, Salem OR 97306
e-mail: dixer@desert4wd.com (prodigalgrapes.com)
Secretary-Treasurer: Lynn Hollerman, PO Box 60241, Lafayette LA 70596
e-mail: lynnhollerman@yahoo.com (ircaonline.com)

Board of Directors: Phil Bytheway – phil_tekno@yahoo.com, Lee Freshwater – mwdker@weebly.net, John C. Johnson – John.Johnson@comcast.net, Mike Sanburn – mikesanburn@hotmail.com and Robert Wierzbicki – wierzbicki@msn.com
Editor-in-Chief: Phil Bytheway, 9705 Mary Ave NW, Seattle WA 98117-2334
e-mail: phil_tekno@yahoo.com – (all material for publication goes here)

MEMBERSHIP DUES (DXM=printed DX Monitor, SDXM=soft e-mailed version)
DXM **SDXM**
Destination USA \$10
Canada & Mexico (group 2) \$10
Western Europe (group 3) \$10
Australia/NZ/Japan (group 4) \$10
Rest of world (group 5) \$10

TRIAL MEMBERSHIP (10 issues) To USA/CANADA/MEXICO only. \$10 DXM, \$12 SDXM /
SDXM Instalment Rate: 2 payments a year of one-half dues plus \$1.
Make checks and Money Orders in US funds payable to IRCA.
All dues and address changes go to: **IRCA, PO Box 60241, Lafayette LA 70596**

Pay electronically with PayPal – add \$1 to all prices above. Go to www.paypal.com then send your dues to ircamember@irconline.org – contact Lynn Hollerman for more information.
Sample copies of DX Monitor are available. Along with your request, please include first class postage of .41¢ for USA addresses, .69¢ for Canada and Mexico or 2 International Reply Coupons each, for other countries. Send to: **IRCA, PO Box 3547, Tualatin OR 97062**. (Maximum two samples per year.)

For information on **subscribing to the IRCA mailing list** at Hard-Core-DX, a group e-mail service, contact the moderator, Lynn Hollerman at lynnhollerman@yahoo.com. Unless otherwise noted, permission is granted to publish, broadcast, or otherwise reproduce non-copyrighted material appearing in **DX Monitor**; provided credit is given to the IRCA and permission is obtained from the original contributor. Opinions in **DX Monitor** are those of the original contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the IRCA, its publishing staff, editors or officers.