



DX News

Since 1933. We know radio.

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CPC ... The CPC treasury is at an all-time low! After sending out 60 letters, we are in need of your stamps/checks (made payable to Jeff Tynan) to continue sending out letters for the first half of the DX season. Please send your contributions and CPC tips to Jeff Tynan - 10359 Severance Drive - Parker, CO 80134.

They joined ... Henry Weissborn, Houston, TX, and Leslie Berkman, Stratford, CT.

From the Publisher ... Eric Wesolowski still has available his production of the 1991 convention, on VHS T-130 tape, lasting 4 hours and 20 minutes. Not only does it contain highlights of the convention, but also shots of WHOT, WOWO, WLW, and the Bethany Relay of the VOA and NRC's antennas and radios at the convention. Your cost is \$20; send your check (made out to the National Radio Club) to NRC publications, or call in your credit card order (see p. 23 for the phone number). The NRC receives 25% of the proceeds of the sale of this tape.

I have nothing else brilliant to offer except to nag you to send your reports to the various column editors. I haven't had any DXChange items for quite a while,

either, and now is the time to clear out that closet (or fill it up again), before you get too busy with DX'ing.

And so, to fill up this page, I present a few clippings of interest. 73 -pls.

DX Time Machine

From the pages of DX News

50 years ago ... from the Nov. 1, 1941 DNX: An announcement was run that "The National Emblem March" has been selected as the official theme song of the NRC.

25 years ago ... from the Nov. 5, 1966 DNX: Mike Tilbrook included contest news ... 16-year-old John Javetski checked in from Richmond Hill, NY, noting that he DX'ed with a 1940 Emerson DS 366.

10 years ago ... from the Nov. 2, 1966 DNX: Bill Hale's comprehensive article, "The British Isles-MW Scene", included a transmitter location list ... Neil Kazaross sent in his first Musing from El Segundo, CA, after moving from the Atlantic coast.

Radio Week

-via Bruce Conti

AM Stations: Get Ready For AMAX!

NAB will soon ask AM stations to air spots promoting high-quality AM receivers carrying a new certification mark developed by NAB and the Electronic Industries Association (EIA).

More than 1,100 stations pledged last year they would participate and all others will be asked by NAB Radio Board Chairman Dick Novik and President/CEO Eddie Fritts to join in.

NAB was waiting until receivers meeting new high-quality standards for AM reception were on the market — and now they are. The certification mark — AMAX or AMAX Stereo — is applied to receivers offering several features that provide the best sound quality available from AM stations now that all are using FCC-mandated standards for audio bandwidth and pre-emphasis.

The AMAX campaign will be introduced at Radio 1991. Participating stations will receive a full AMAX campaign kit in the mail in September. The on-air

campaign begins in October and will run for one year.

The campaign was developed by NAB's AM Receiver Manufacturer Liaison Task Force headed by Ted Snider of KARN-AM, Little Rock, AR, working with EIA. The campaign's spots are being produced in different formats at several AM stations around the country.

"These new receivers are a great boost for AM radio," said Snider, who recently visited manufacturers producing AMAX radios. "It is important that all AM stations take part in the campaign to help assure the success of AMAX-certified receivers in the marketplace."

In 1983, the NRSC agreed on an AM transmission standard that called for a ten kilohertz bandwidth and a specific pre-emphasis to which receiver manufacturers could design. NAB asked the FCC to mandate that standard for all U.S. AM stations. These FCC rules became effective July 1, 1990. This solved the AM

transmission problem. High-quality AM is now being transmitted. The advent of digital sound has led to the adoption of much digital studio origination equipment in AM stations, which further improves AM sound.

In order to address the interference problem, the FCC has to be involved. It controls most of the factors that cause interference: band overcrowding, interference between stations, and RF emitting devices. In June 1989, NAB asked for and received a hearing of the full FCC on AM improvement, which was held in November, 1989. As a result, the FCC in the Spring of 1990 issued a Notice of Proposed Rule Making on AM improvement that addressed a wide range of issues. The comment and reply periods have passed and the FCC expects to take up the issue within the next 60 days. It is the hope of the Task Force that this will result in new rules that will allow significant reduction in AM interference.

AM Switch

Jerry Starr
c/o WHOT Radio
4040 Simon Road
Youngstown, OH 44512-1320

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

CALL LETTER CHANGES

Old call:

| | | | |
|------|------|----|---------------|
| 610 | WGKL | NC | Charlotte |
| 740 | WLVG | MA | Cambridge |
| 820 | WPNT | IL | Chicago |
| 850 | KMDY | CA | Thousand Oaks |
| 990 | KKCR | TX | Wichita Falls |
| 1140 | KCSY | AK | Soldotna |
| 1300 | WLIF | MD | Baltimore |
| 1310 | KCRE | CA | Crescent City |
| 1320 | WSCR | PA | Scranton |
| 1340 | WBCR | PA | Wilkes-Barre |
| 1550 | KBLK | OK | Sapulpa |

New call:

| |
|-------|
| WAQS |
| WEAA |
| WSCR* |
| KCTQ |
| KNIN |
| KSLD |
| WJFK |
| KFVR |
| WTSS* |
| WTSW |
| KXOJ |



FM 93.5 AM 57
P.O. BOX 1748 UHAE, KAUAI, HAWAII 96769

Notes: WPNT-820 has also rejected the previously requested WXJZ (as well as WCZE, WXEZ, WXRT, etc) and has settled on WSCR "Score" to fit their proposed sports format. We understand they bought the call from the former owner in Scranton, PA as noted above.

APPLICATIONS/GRANTS FOR NEW STATIONS

None

APPLICATIONS FROM EXISTING FACILITIES

1340 WJPF IL Herrin: reduce powers to 770/770 watts

GRANTS TO EXISTING FACILITIES

730 WCPT VA Alexandria: night power to 380 watts, changes in antenna system
870 KIEV CA Glendale: day power to 15000 watts (we understand this higher power is already on the air)
910 WRNL VA Richmond: changes in antenna system

OTHERNESS

530 CJFT ON Fort Erie: station is SILENT and in its place CIAO, which will move here from 790 kHz, has been simulcasting on both frequencies since 9-28-91
800 WDSC SC Dillon: silent station is ON THE AIR
1290 WGLI NY Babylon: application to move license of this silent station to Masti Beach, NY had been refused by the FCC since this is a "major change" and cannot be accepted under the "AM freeze" rules
1550 WOKJ MS Jackson: the saga of this silent station may be at an end as the FCC has revoked its license. This does not, however, exempt the owner from the fine the FCC imposed for various violations. They have reduced the fine from \$250,000 to \$20,000 and loss of license.

THANKS: CHUCK RADER, DAVE SCHMIDT, JOHN S. BOWKER, M STREET JOURNAL

73 and Good DX, *Jerry's BKF* Jerry Starr & Buffalo K. Foorman

Silent Stations ... by Jerry Starr

Recently the FCC's Mass Media Bureau released a list of silent AM stations. This list found its way into several trade publications including R&R Magazine. In checking this list we find at least a dozen stations listed as being silent that have returned to the air, some as much as 8 months ago. The list isn't dated and, like all FCC paperwork we've come up against, its accuracy is not above question. We have eliminated the stations we know for fact are back on the air and spent several days arranging the rest in order by frequency. That list is presented below. Please send me any additions or corrections to this list that you are POSITIVE of and have CONFIRMED by actual monitoring, NOT by reading elsewhere or hearing second-hand. Thank you.

| | | | | | | | |
|------|------|----|------------------|------|------|----|--------------|
| 560 | WYOR | TN | Brentwood | 1130 | WKIJ | AL | Parrish |
| 580 | KSAZ | AZ | Tucson | | KHTH | CO | Dillon |
| 600 | KOLS | AZ | Flagstaff | | KLEI | HI | Kailua |
| 610 | KSKE | CO | Vail | | WVEF | SC | Camden |
| 650 | KORL | HI | Honolulu | 1170 | WKFL | FL | Bushnell |
| 710 | WKXB | TN | Smyna | | WDAT | MS | Amory |
| 730 | WDKT | AL | Madison | | WBRW | NJ | Bridgewater |
| 790 | WPIQ | GA | Brunswick | 1180 | WSAF | GA | Trion |
| 820 | WPNT | IL | Chicago | 1200 | WFSQ | AL | Ozark |
| 830 | KABN | AK | Long Island | 1220 | WEOQ | KY | Whitley City |
| 850 | WAIT | IL | Crystal Lake | | WTCN | MN | Stillwater |
| 900 | WCER | OH | Canton | 1230 | KBZB | AZ | Bisbee |
| 910 | WLAS | NC | Jacksonville | | WCKJ | GA | Augusta |
| 920 | WMEL | FL | Melbourne | | WAYX | GA | Waycross |
| 940 | KSWM | MO | Aurora | 1240 | WKIQ | FL | Eustis |
| 950 | KRRP | LA | Coushatta | | KZID | ID | McCall |
| | WKZX | ME | Presque Isle | | WPNF | NC | Brevard |
| | WNOC | PA | Barnesboro | 1250 | WREN | KS | Topeka |
| 980 | KCAB | AR | Dardanelle | 1260 | KVSF | NM | Santa Fe |
| 990 | WABX | MI | Clare | 1270 | KPBA | AR | Pine Bluff |
| 1000 | KHAM | AR | Horseshoe Bend | | KTRT | OK | Claremore |
| | WEXI | FL | Jupiter | 1280 | KTOL | WA | Lacey |
| | WJHH | GA | Soperton | 1290 | WCOO | CT | Hartford |
| | WKLO | KY | Danville | | WGLI | NY | Babylon |
| 1010 | KDLA | LA | DeRidder | | WTNX | TN | Lynchburg |
| | WXLX | NC | Albemarle | | KWGH | TX | Big Lake |
| | KTLE | UT | Tooele | 1300 | KBCN | AK | Fairbanks |
| 1040 | KCBR | CO | Monument | | KDOV | OR | Phoenix |
| 1060 | WBMB | MI | West Branch | | WRXR | SC | Aiken |
| | WGSB | NC | Mebane | 1310 | WBRO | GA | Waynesboro |
| 1080 | WLVN | AL | Brantley | 1320 | WAGF | AL | Dothan |
| 1090 | WSLG | LA | Gonzales | | KAVI | CO | Rocky Ford |
| | WSOL | PR | San German | | WFRK | FL | Coleman |
| | WKSP | SC | Kingstree | 1330 | WTRX | MI | Flint |
| | KACO | TX | Belleville | | KDRQ | ND | Wishek |
| | WGOD | VI | Charlotte Amalie | 1340 | KBRS | AR | Springdale |
| 1110 | KKLC | LA | Pineville | | WWFL | FL | Clermont |
| | WJML | MI | Petoskey | | KRCV | NV | Reno |
| 1120 | WOGM | TN | Maryville | | KPDN | TX | Pampa |
| | WYNO | OH | Nelsonville | | KTEO | TX | San Angelo |



KOLT 1320
P.O. Box 660
Scottsbluff, Nebraska 69361

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|------|------|----|-------------|------|------|----|-----------------|
| 4 | 1350 | KBAD | CA | Bakersfield | 1470 | WBUL | KY | Shepherdsville |
| | | WBEM | PA | Windber | | WHRD | WV | Huntington |
| | 1360 | WVHY | TN | Milan | 1490 | KXRE | CO | Manitou Springs |
| | 1370 | KTMG | CO | Deer Trail | | WKLV | FL | Bradenton |
| | 1380 | KFLJ | CO | Walsenburg | | WOTA | MS | Vicksburg |
| | | WSIZ | GA | Ocilla | | WLOE | NC | Eden |
| | | WSFL | NC | New Bern | | WWIL | NC | Wilmington |
| | | WAGS | SC | Bishopville | 1500 | WZKT | VA | Waynesboro |
| | 1390 | WAPR | FL | Avon Park | | KIKY | AR | Jacksonville |
| | 1400 | KHTZ | CA | Truckee | 1510 | KCLF | LA | New Roads |
| | | KIGO | ID | St. Anthony | | WPSC | SC | Pageland |
| | 1410 | WRNB | AL | Prattville | 1520 | WHRF | MD | Bel Aire |
| | | WDTL | MS | Boyle | | WQMA | MS | Marks |
| | | KBAL | TX | San Saba | 1530 | KCTT | AR | Yellville |
| | 1420 | KSRK | TX | Lufkin | 1540 | WYNC | NC | Yanceyville |
| | 1430 | WBRB | MI | Mt. Clemens | 1550 | KEDD | KS | Dodge City |
| | | KNSP | MN | Staples | | WOKJ | MS | Jackson |
| | | WCOG | SC | Ridgeland | | WOR1 | TN | Oak Ridge |
| | 1440 | WSEL | MS | Pontotoc | 1580 | WVAB | VA | Virginia Beach |
| | 1450 | KJWH | AR | Camden | | KPCA | AR | Marked Tree |
| | | KOBO | CA | Yuba City | | WGBB | FL | Mount Dora |
| | | WDSG | TN | Dyersburg | 1590 | WSRR | NJ | Washington |
| | | KMHT | TX | Marshall | | WFJT | KY | Inez |
| | | KCNY | UT | Moab | 1600 | WPNN | ME | Gorham |
| | 1460 | KZOT | AR | Marianna | | WNGA | GA | Nashville |
| | | KRQC | CA | Salinas | | WSLK | KY | Hyden |
| | | WPRW | VA | Manassas | | WTZQ | NC | Hendersonville |

Not included are CPs for new stations that are not yet on the air or silent stations that have surrendered their license to the FCC for cancellation. There seem to be some glaring errors of omission in this list. Right off the top of my head these would include WAMS-1380, WJSH-1300 (ex-WYTL), WGS-1310, etc. All have been off since early this year. We also believe that some of the listed station have surrendered their licenses but are still included. Your input can help keep this list up to date but PLEASE MAKE CERTAIN YOU HAVE FIRST-HAND KNOWLEDGE of changes before you submit them.
-Jerry Starr

IN THE BEGINNING

BY JOHN D. BOWKER

THIS IS THE COMPLETE LIST OF U. S. BROADCAST STATIONS ON THE INDICATED FREQUENCY AS PUBLISHED BY THE FEDERAL RADIO COMMISSION IN 1934. "S" MEANS SHARED; "SH" MEANS SPECIFIED HOURS; "T" INDICATES TRANSMITTER LOCATION; "D" MEANS DAYTIME OPERATION ONLY; "U" MEANS UNLIMITED TIME.

| Frequency (kc) | Call letters | Main studio and transmitter location | Power | Time designation |
|----------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|-------|--------------------------------|
| 1180, clear... | WINS | New York, N.Y. | 500 w | L-KEX, KOB. |
| | | T—Carlstadt, N.J. | | |
| | WMAZ | Macon, Ga. | 500 w | L-KEX, KOB. |
| | WDGY | Minneapolis, Minn. | 1 kw | L-KEX, KOB. |
| 1190, clear... | KOB | Albuquerque, N.Mex. | 10 kw | Simultaneous D S-KEX night. |
| | KEX | Portland, Oreg. | 5 kw | Simultaneous D S-KOB night. |
| | WSAZ | Huntington, W.Va. | 500 w | L-WOAI. |
| | WOAI | San Antonio, Tex. | 50 kw | U. |
| | | T—Selma. | | |

International DX Digest

Jim Renfrew

61 Wilcox Street
Rochester, NY 14607-3832

Foreign DX Catches. Times are UTC; for ELT, subtract 5 hrs.

With no insightful insights this week, we move right to DX. Thanks to all reporters. All times UTC. Jim

RELG. They don't bomb in like the used to, best on loop. Again 0015 10/11, S-9, more like the old days. [AM-VA]

TRANS-ATLANTIC

153 ALGERIA Bechar 0210 10/14. Good w/AA mx, male announcer. This was in virtually nightly during the summer when my powerline noise was low. [AM-VA]

830 BELIZE R. Belize 0128 10/8. Excellent w/Carib accent EE, sx update. A surprise, good on all antennas. Also ID and spot for a company in Belmopan. Way atop again 0105 10/14 w/nx. [AM-VA]

162 FRANCE Allouis 0214 10/14. Presumed w/man in what sounded like FF, just at the noise level, I've heard them better! [AM-VA]

1020 VENEZUELA YVRS, R. Margarita, La Asunción 0206 10/12. Upbeat mx, male announcer, slogan ID and mention of Nueva Esparta, the state they are in. Fair signal w/KDKA phased. [AM-VA]

PAN-AMERICAN

620 CUBA R. Rebelle, CMDA, Colon 0018 10/11. 20/S-9 w/speech // CMKA 600, 600 listed 150 kW, poor. [AM-VA]

1080 CUBA R. Cadena Habana, CMCU, Guines 0005 10/11. Very good // CMCW-1120, o/another SS speaker. [AM-VA] 0355 10/12 noted with martial mx and ID, poor u/WTIC. [JR-NY]

680 CUBA R. Progreso (2 listed) 0028 10/12. Good w/mx, mixing w/WCBM, //670 which was really rolling in, best on loop. [AM-VA]

1090t MARTINIQUE R. Caraibes 0606 10/12. Very tentative w/quick burst of FF talk u/WBAL's LK Show. ERC and others please note: WRTH lists this under Martinique, with Fort-de-France IDs and address, but says transmitter is on St. Lucia, about 20 miles to the south - a different country. Same old question: city of license or transmitter site in state/country counting? You decide! [JR-NY]

700 JAMAICA R. One, Montego Bay 2355 10/11. Excellent w/horse race results and racing mx, other sports mx. Good all antennas, but best on N/S sloper. [AM-VA] 1000 10/14 s/om w/list of all AM & FM frequencies, to morning GDS type mx, good signal in WLW null. Finally got this one on tape. [WH-CO] (Nice from CO - Jim)

710 MEXICO XEDP, Cd. Cuauhtemoc 1030 10/14. Male announcer w/call letter ID and SS mx, fair in KNUS null, taped. [WH-CO]

1100 CUBA R. Cadena Habana, CMCH, Jaruco 2348 10/11. Good w/WWWE phased, mx, male announcer in SS, // 1080 & 1120. [AM-VA]

780 VENEZUELA 0030+ 10/12. Not sure which, excellent, many spots, very enthusiastic announcer, mentions of Venezuela, but no real ID, good all antennas. [AM-VA] (I hear R. Coro here - Jim)

1120 CUBA R. Cadena Habana, CMCW, Artemisia 0055 10/8. Excellent w/upbeat mx, many slogan IDs around 0100, KMOX phased. [AM-VA]

810 BAHAMAS ZNS-3, Freeport 0028 10/9. Ending RELG program w/female preacher, northern Bahamas ID, mx, WGY phased. Generally on top, but some QRM. [AM-VA]

1165 ANTIGUA Caribbean R. Lighthouse 0103 10/9. Starting EE RELG program, completely in the clear w/WWVA phased. [AM-VA]

810 COLOMBIA Caracol, HJCY, Bogota 0040 10/12. Male announcer in SS, singing "Caracol" promo by female group, good signal but mixing w/ZNS-3 and others, best on loop. [AM-VA]

825 ST KITTS - NEVIS R. Paradise 0119 10/8. Only fair at best w/EE

RADIO VISION AM

565-5727

Cabina 565-5625

La Deportivissima!!

de la Cadena Brea Peña
Emilio A. Morel 4to. 27 Apdo. 1322, S.D.

118 CO

- 1400 WRJN WI RACINE - 10/10 0633 fair with farm report, wx, TC + WRJN ID; over/under KVFD; new for WI #80 (SA-MB)
 1440 KJLO LA MONROE - 9/29 0205 good in slop, caught mention of an event in West Monroe by female announcer (ETH-MO)
 1510 WWHN IL JOLIET - 10/3 0700 good with two rooster crows, *Good Morning, Chicago, this is WWHN Joliet beginning its broadcast day*, mentioned 1000 watts of power, new (SA-MB)
 1550 KLFJ MO SPRINGFIELD - 9/25 0825 good atop with *Springfield's Christian Radio Station KLFJ* - mx (ETH-MO)
 1590 KTCH NE WAYNE - 10/3 0658 poor with sign-on info, then SSB; under KVGB; new (SA-MB)

0800 TO 1600 HOURS ELT

- 1190 KXXS NM ALBUQUERQUE - 10/6 0811 XLNT with *La Super XID & Buenas Noches Nueva Mexico* in - Mexican mx; new (SA-MB)
 1250 WMTR NJ MORRISTOWN - 10/12 1530 with Rutgers FB; good signal due to WARE being off the air (JB-MA)
 1450 KVOW WY RIVERTON - 10/5 0810 fair with local ads & wx for Riverton-Lander area; KVOW ID; new (SA-MB)

Marshalltown's great 430!

Marshalltown

- 700 KSEV TX TOMBALL - 9/29 2040 way over WLW with *Talkradio 700 KSEV* ID, then lost @ power/pattern change (ETH-MO)
 710 CKVM PQ VILLE MARIE - 9/20 1915 good with dance/pop mx, *Alo, Ville Marie...* in promo by man & woman (ETH-MO)
 840 KVEG NV NORTH LAS VEGAS - 10/16 2200 with sports talk involving Pirates team - ID *Your sports station AM 840 KVEG Las Vegas*; WHAS nulled (JB-TX)
 860 KKOW KS PITTSBURGH - 9/30 2035 good in strong KFUO slop, call ID by man after tune (ETH-MO)
 910 WALT MS MERIDIAN - 9/24 2040 loud in WGNU slop, *T-91 & Power 99.3* IDs, local ads (ETH-MO)
 940 WCPC MS HOUSTON - 9/30 1940 good in WMIX null, GOS, local ads, ID (ETH-MO)
 990 WYAT LA NEW ORLEANS - 10/6 2010 local ads, ID - song; quite AU tonight (ETH-MO)
 KWAM TN MEMPHIS - 10/7 2247-2400+ canned REL and BLK GOS mix; many uses of *Power 990 KWAM - Working for the Kingdom* slogan; mostly all alone with WIVK faint in background; usually WIVK is dominant at night with KWAM very rare (RJT-NC)
 1010 WGUN GA ATLANTA - 9/30 2040 fair atop jumble, GOS, legal ID (ETH-MO)
 1020 WPEO IL PEORIA - 9/23 2000 good in KXEN slop, ID after REL (ETH-MO)
 1040 WMTX FL PINELLAS PARK - 10/8 1903-1919 ex:WHBO; battling it out with HION (*Radio Central*) Santo Domingo, DR; good at times with CHR/AC; many *Mix 96* slogans; no sign of WHO this evening; power cut later on leaving the Dominican all alone! (RJT-NC)
 1050 KLOH MN PIPESTONE - 9/20 2334 good with mention of *Great Stereo Country KLOH* (RD-IA)
 KMIS MO PORTAGEVILLE - 10/6 1930 good, *FM 106 KMIS* ID after song; MO #53 (ETH-MO)
 1070 WIBC IN INDIANAPOLIS - 9/23 2000 good, ID in promo, local nx (ETH-MO)
 1080 WTAC AL ATHENS - 9/23 2000 loud, full-data sign-off, mention of 5000 watts, FCC, address (ETH-MO)
 1100 KKLL MO WEBB CITY - 9/26 2030 strong, over WWWE, soft-spoken female announcer w/REL events calendar, sign-off & ID (ETH-MO)
 KKLL MO WEBB CITY - 10/9 1930-1945+ REL pgm under WWWE with sign-off at 1945+; dual city ID as *Webb City - Joplin*, address same as in new Log; Finally... Muchneeded (RJT-NC)
 1140 WBXR AL HAZEL GREEN - 9/30 1955 XLNT, many *Oldies 1140* and call IDs (ETH-MO)
 WVEL IL PEKIN - 10/7 1915 good over WBXR, sign-off and address (ETH-MO)
 CJTR PQ TROIS-RIVIERES - 9/19 2052 good with CLs and city-of-license in FF (RD-IA)

1600 TO 2400 HOURS ELT

- 1150 KNED OK MC ALISTER - 9/29 2035 legal ID atop mess (ETH-MO)
 1160 KVAR TX SAN ANTONIO - 10/6 2030 alone, SS, *La Fiera* IDs only between most songs; TX #19 (ETH-MO) [Earl, KVAR is new call, in effect at the time of your reception - Ed.]
 1190 KJLA MO KANSAS CITY - 10/7 1930 good, JAZ interlude then ID (ETH-MO)
 1220 WFKN KY FRANKLIN - 10/7 1955 atop, string of IDs in promo (ETH-MO)
 KOMC MO BRANSON - 10/7 1925 good, many ads, local nx, *Ozark Mountain Country* IDs only (ETH-MO)
 KGIR MO CAPE GIRARDEAU - 9/30 1935 good, call ID after song (ETH-MO)
 1250 WIZZ IL STREATOR - 9/20 2253 weak with CLs mentioned in HS FB wrap-up (RD-IA)
 WGL IN FORT WAYNE - 9/20 2250 good with conclusion of *Southside vs Bishop Lourdes* HS FB; my 4th catch from Major Frank Burns' hometown (RD-IA)
 WKBL TN COVINGTON - 9/26 2000 fair - good, TN Radio Net Nx by woman, local ads, ID; TN #29 (ETH-MO)
 1260 KTTS MO SPRINGFIELD - 9/26 2010 weak in WIBV null, furniture store ad, several IDs in promo (ETH-MO)
 1270 WKSJ AL PRITCHARD - 9/29 2030 good, end of mx pgm, many *KSI* IDs, gave Mobile address (ETH-MO)
 1280 KNBY AR NEWPORT - 10/6 1935 atop, call ID after song (ETH-MO)
 WQUE LA NEW ORLEANS - 10/6 2020 loud, many *Q-93* IDs, took phone call on air, UC mx (ETH-MO)
 1290 WCBL KY BENTON - 9/26 1950 very good, *WCBL AM-FM* legal ID between songs (ETH-MO)
 1330 WSSY IL EVANSTON - 9/22 2000 good with sign-off (RD-IA)
 KNOW MN MINNEAPOLIS - 9/20 2259 fair with CLs and mention of *a service of Minnesota Public Radio* (RD-IA)
 1410 WLWV AL MOBILE - 10/6 1955 atop, ID by woman after REL/GOS show (ETH-MO)
 WIZM WI LA CROSSE - 9/24 2100 good, net talk show, legal ID over hour while trying for WLWV-AL (ETH-MO)
 1440 WNFL WI GREEN BAY - 9/20 2306 fair with ID during *Brewers* BB; my 2nd logging from Packerland (RD-IA)
 1470 KTCB MO MALDEN - 9/20 2020 good, briefly over WMBD, ad for grocery store in Malden, mention *SE Missouri, HS FB* (ETH-MO)
 1480 WABB AL MOBILE - 10/6 2000 call ID in jumble; AL #20 (ETH-MO)
 1500 WBRI IN INDIANAPOLIS - 9/22 1958 fair with sign-off (RD-IA)
 1510 KGA WA SPOKANE - 9/22 2154 fair - good with C&W mc call-in show (*Barbara Mandrell* was the guest); *1510 KGA* jx noted at this time; usual pest WLAC only a minor nuisance; ADVICE TO DXers!: if you are missing Washington from your logs, this is the station to try for... late Sept/early Oct at LSS is the best time of the year to go after it; 1st WA logging at this QTH (RD-IA)
 1530 KXRQ AR TRUMANN - 9/20 1905 good, = WCKY1, weird distorted audio, *Trumann Wildcats* HS FB, ad, promo (ETH-MO)
 1540 KGBC TX GALVESTON - 9/20 2308 good under KXEL with *Texas City vs Baytown-Sterling* HS FB (RD-IA)
 KGBC TX GALVESTON - 9/26 2150 atop KXEL, SS call ID and *Radio Quince Cuarenta* IDs (ETH-MO)
 1550 WRHC FL CORAL GABLES - 10/6 1900 and other times, gets out very well, probably best bet for Florida here; SS call IDs frequent (ETH-MO)
 WLUX LA BATON ROUGE - 9/29 2005 fair briefly, wx, temp... *In Baton Rouge* (ETH-MO)
 KXOJ OK SAPULPA - 9/23 2040 good, ID and address in local REL mx show (ETH-MO)
 1570 WFRL IL FREEPORT - 9/30 2000 poor, legal ID in passing way under WOKZ; IL #51 (ETH-MO)
 1590 WVNA AL TUSCUMBIA - 9/29 1955 fair, several call IDs and address, mostly atop jumble (ETH-MO)
 WNTS IN BEECH GROVE - 9/26 1945 good with KATZ nulled, ... *our call letters are WNTS!* (ETH-MO)



Omaha, NE

- 1180 **CUBA R. Taino** 2359 10/10. Bombing in w/announcements in EE w/ID "Welcome to Cuba", followed by SS TC and ID. Super signal on all announcements. [AM-VA]
- 1205 **CAYMAN ISLANDS R. Cayman, George-town** 0035 10/14. Fair at best, some audio, religious program, IDed by checking // 1555. With dual VFO's // checking is a snap on the R-8. WOGL phased and semi-local WAGE no problem. [AM]
- 1505 **ANGUILLA R. Anquilla** 2328 10/13. Likely the one, male announcer in EE, what sounded like R. Anquilla ID but not sure, tough copy, best on slopers w/local WTOP phased. [AM-VA]
- 1580 **unID 0505** 10/12. unID ID as "R. Interacción" with SS mx and talk. No idea what this is, except that cx were not all that good to the south, maybe a domestic? Does Hermosillo, Mexico ID this way? I heard WRHC-1550 w/SS talk at 0530 10/12, perhaps running late or with higher power during Cuban Communist Party meeting in Santiago de Cuba. [JR-NY]

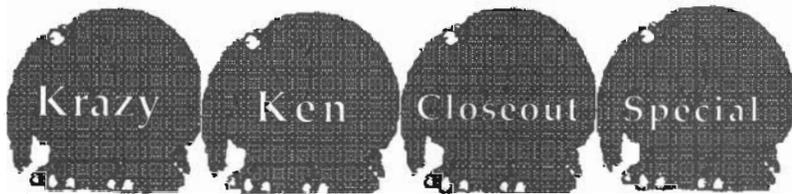
CONTRIBUTORS

- [AM-VA] Alan Merriman, Annandale VA; Drake R-8, 2 Antenna Super-market Slopers modified to noise reducing antennas, mini MWDX-4A wire/wire phasing unit, MWT-2 regenerative amp/tuner, 2 ft high dynamic range balun loop w/amp
- [JR-NY] Jim Renfrew, Rochester NY; HQ-150, SM-1
- [WH-CO] Wayne Heinen, Aurora CO; R-390A, 4' NRC loop

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Modifications for the NRD-525 ... by John R. Tow

The NRD-525 is one of the most popular of today's DX rigs for the serious SWL/DXer. It has not been received with quite the same reverence in the MW circle, however. Some of its problems, such as the poor AGC action, background hiss, filter bandwidths, and generated noise, are remediable. The remedies do involve some technical expertise and will invalidate anyone's warranty. I shall begin at the output and work my way forward.

The audio response is too wide. The low end is a bit boomy and the high end is too high - allowing too much of that 525 hiss for my taste. The low end can be rolled off below 200 Hz by replacing C29 (10 uF) on the IF AF Board (CAE-182) with a 2.2 uF tantalum capacitor. This change affects only the speaker/headphone output - not the line or record output. Suitable R-C components for all of my modifications can be purchased at Radio Shack. To roll-off at a higher frequency (even less bass), use a 1 uF instead. ECSSB users may not like this change since zero-beating is not quite so easy with the poor low frequency response resulting from this change.

The high end can be rolled off above 6 kHz by placing a 470 pF ceramic capacitor on the bottom of the same board from pin 1 to 2 on IC5. Watch lead dress to insure that you don't short the capacitor leads to other circuit lands. This change will be noted on each of the audio outputs. The improvement in speech quality is quite noticeable. To lessen the hiss even more, but on all outputs, you can parallel C54 (2200 pF) with a small ceramic 0.0047 uF capacitor.

The AGC has a too rapid attack time, a large amount of overshoot, and excessive demodulated audio riding on the AGC line. My cures were developed over the last 18 months - and are surpassed in effectiveness by the ESKAB AGC modification. But my modifications are simple to implement and involve IF AF Board CAE-182. Replace R103 and R104, both SMD's which must be pried loose with a hobby knife while gently unsoldering them, with 10 kohm 1/8 W or smaller resistors. This slows the attack time. Replace C77 (0.22 uF) with a 1 uF tantalum capacitor to further slow the attack and decay time. If you want a bit less speed - try a 2.2 uF instead. Finally, solder a 1 uF tantalum capacitor on the bottom of the board from pin 4 (-) to pin 5 (+) of IC9. These changes will lower the audio distortion on AM as well as improve the AGC response tremendously. The ESKAB (see address at end) AGC modification is still better - but harder to implement.

The front end first IF filter, FL1, is too broad. ESKAB suggests that it is 68 kHz wide at -60 db while they supply a 15 kHz width at -60 db 8 pole 70.455 MHz filter. The second IF's first filter, FL2, is also too broad. ESKAB suggests that it is 36 kHz wide at -40 db while they supply a 12 kHz wide at -40 db filter. The replacement of FL1 is straight forward while FL2 requires the drilling of a couple of small holes (Some users have replaced the stock FL2 with the stock WIDE filter, a bit more difficult than the ESKAB modification.). The end result of changing FL1 & FL2 is unbelievable. The (S+N)/N ratio improved by as much as 5 db over the stock receiver (see table). There is no free lunch - the tighter bandwidth renders the reception of narrowband FM much less than acceptable while it lengthens the noise impulses such that the noise blanker circuitry is no longer as effective. I find these minor detriments in comparison to the vast selectivity improvements yielded by the changes. Ultimate selectivity, so important in working splits, is vastly superior to the unaltered NRD. Additionally, a better use for the FM mode will be given later.

ESKAB also has the best approach to augmenting the JRC filters for bandwidth selection. I purchased a "Sharp 4 kHz" filter and board from ESKAB for my AUX position. What I received was a small PC board with matching components and a CFJ series filter. The board included pins to permit inserting it in place of a JRC filter. It yielded a flat passband, no more insertion loss than the JRC filters (same signal strength regardless of bandwidth), and a very professional appearing installation. I have seen what has to be done to put the excellent quality Collins filters on a 525's filter board. The excessive

modifications of the JRC board required to mount the Collins filter still yield more attenuation and passband ripple than I feel is acceptable. Most installations of said mechanical filters offer neither resonating capacitance nor impedance matching. The filter supplied by ESKAB, though not as good a filter ultimately as a Collins mechanical, is quite acceptable in my application. I am afraid that the ultimate isolation of a good mechanical IF filter would be wasted on the JRC filter board because of the crosstalk and poor isolation. ESKAB has the best approach in spreading the filters between the original JRC board and the PLAM detector board they offer. I have not tried this approach yet.

The above modifications yield a receiver with selectable bandwidths of 1.8, 2.2, 3.4, and 4.7 kHz @ - 6 db. To regain a wider bandwidth for listening to those clear channel stations, while using an otherwise useless FM mode, is quite simple. I found that by cutting the land from J28-13 to J30-9 on the motherboard the FM mode would yield AM reception bypassing the bandwidth filters as the original 'AUX' position did prior to the installation of the additional filter. This added 6.8 kHz bandwidth as a possibility. The new 'AUX' position is narrower than the original because of the cascading effect of the two tighter replacement filters for PL1 & PL2.

The land to be cut carries the signal from the BW decoder on the IF filter board to the IF AF board to turn off the AGC and turn on the FM detector audio path during FM reception. By interrupting the path, the AM detector and AGC will remain on when the BW decoder senses the selection of the FM mode. Unfortunately, the CPU still thinks you are using FM and ignores the AGC switch. You will be stuck on AGC Slow only and either 5 or 10 kHz depending on the resolution (10 or 100 Hz) selected for UP and DOWN slewing. The keypad and frequency knob function normally, as do the NB, PBT, and Notch controls. The loss of FM reception I find acceptable. A SPST toggle switch could be wired across the land cutting and placed on the back panel if you want to select the FM detection mode at some future time.

A slight improvement in signal feed-thru and S/N should result from completely disconnecting the FM detector from the signal path and power supply. This modification is difficult to reverse. To effect this change, simply remove the SMD capacitor C11 located near T2 and cut the land feeding Vcc to IC10 and T1.

To slightly improve the receiver's ability to withstand the detrimental effects of IM and CM distortion, the front end protection diodes can be easily removed. Simply lift one end of CD1 and CD3 located on the HF Tune board CPL-205. Be sure to disconnect the antenna when not in use. If you are the least bit concerned about a strong local RF signal, leave the diodes in place, as they do offer some front-end protection. I reconnected mine after an unexplained failure of the decoding chip IC-1 and two attached decoupling capacitors.

The back panel heat is the result of too wide an input AC voltage capability on the power transformer. The bridge rectifier output is +17 V. This has to be dropped to the appropriate levels by the three voltage regulator ICs and the discrete VR circuit with a pass transistor. Two of the IC's, the pass transistor, and the power transformer provide the back panel heat. Operating from a well regulated external DC source of 12-13.6 V will drop the power dissipation back there by about 8-10 Watts plus the transformer losses. I now use a marine battery of gelled cell construction (No liquid electrolyte or vent caps to leak onto the floor!) and rated at 105 Amp-Hours to power nearly everything in my shack. I also use the same battery on DXpeditions. It has only been re-charged four times in the past year! The NRD-525 works flawlessly on DC until the battery voltage drops to around 10.8-11.0 V. In addition, line noise is not as frequently a problem with an external dedicated ground and no "mains" connection.

I was simply not satisfied with the low audio level available at the front panel headphone jack. If you use the traditional mini-phones from your carry along portable or the Icom, Yaesu, or Kenwood communications headphones then you know how low the level is. The aforementioned headphones have 8 - 16 Ohms impedance. A 100 Ohm resistor, R7 located on the front panel mounted board CQB-40, limits the output to low Z phones to a few mW maximum. If you use the JRC headphones with their 600 Ohm

Domestic DX Digest - East

William Hale

734 Burselson
San Marcos, TX 78666-4335

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

MEDIUM WAVE RAMBLINGS

■ My thanks to John Bowker of Motorhome, USA for the phone call. I hope your trip to Florida was a pleasant one, John. And your tape recorder is filled with IDs. I'll be listening for them on the DX Audio Service.

SPECIAL

- 790 KYFO TX LUBBOCK - 9/15 0830 still not using new CLs KESP; 790 AM KFYO, it's seven-thirty - giveaway dinner for two at El Chico's, and the winner is... James Morrison in Levelland (JB-TX)
- 830 KBUC TX CIBOLO - leaves unmodulated OC on all night after their sign-off; their GM said they were having some technical problems and were working on them; didn't know this was legal (JB-TX)
- 880 KGHT AR SHERIDAN - 10/10 1915-1929+ what appeared to be BLK GOS format, ex:C&W; have hrd several times in past 2 weeks with this format, perhaps a change, can any Little Rock member verify? Karl Jeter note ** perhaps personnel change here??? very weak for 31 kw -- maybe power cut also? (RJT-NC)
- 920 WMMN WV FAIRMONT - off the air as of 10/15 @ 2400; running OC on 10/16 (BS-WV)
- 1250 WARE MA WARE - station off the air due to XR problem from evening of 10/10 to... (JB-MA)
- 1500 KBRN TX BOERNE (pronounced ber-nee) - 10/19 1440 hrd back on the air with C&W mx on *The Musical Menu*; fair signal after bullsnake attack [Ed.-TX]
- 1510 KIDZ MO INDEPENDENCE - 10/10 back on the air today, now || KXXR (FM) Liberty; format is CHR, otherwise, retains facilities as in NRC Log (JEL-MO)

UNIDS AND UNID HELP

- 580 CKY MB WINNIPEG - Bill Prather's unID from Issue #1 might be this: they ARE oldies, and I've heard them use the *Great 58* slogan in the past (RD-IA)
- 1040 UNID ?? - 9/29 2035 loud in WHO null (so loops SW-NE) with Sun Radio Network; anybody know if Dallas is Sun? (ETH-MO) [I don't think so are 100% REL - Ed.]
- 1380 UNID ?? - 10/7 2123 good to very good with Kansas City Chiefs FB; I'm guessing KCIM in Carroll, IA, but maybe someone else out there has different information (RD-IA)
- 1580 UNID ?? - 10/9 1830 several ads mentioning Jacksonville and events in Jacksonville (JB-MA) [Probably WWOV Camp Lejeune, NC. Their 10kw gets out quite well and many up your way have logged them. Their mailing address is Jacksonville, NC - Ed.]



TALK RADIO

- 610 WIOD FL MIAMI - 10/6 0638 Garden Talk Show; I'm Chris Arnold ? in South Florida ? ? WIOD 610 AM - promo for *WIOD News on Radio 610* (JB-TX)
- 660 KCRO NE OMAHA - 9/29 0716 briefly with two clear IDs... KCRO - Christian Radio Omaha, fair (HM-OH)
- 840 KWPN NE WEST POINT - 10/8 0700-0720 fair in WHAS null w/AP Net Nx, dual ID including *AM-84* and *FM-108*, AC mx and promo for a show called *Spotlight on Oakland* (a neighboring town) (KVJ-GA)
- 1240 KXYL TX LUBBOCK - 10/6 0800 suddenly out from under SS pgm with KXYL ? ? Lubbock ? (JB-TX)
- 1400 WQBH MI DETROIT - 10/8 0646 fair with listing of church anncts and services for Detroit & area; new for MI #70 (SA-MB)

- 1590 WZBX MS JACKSON - 9/24 2200 loud, faded up for legal ID over hour - nx (ETH-MO)
 WDBL TN SPRINGFIELD - 9/29 1950 poor - fair, several call IDs in promo, in jumble (ETH-MO)
 1600 WEUP AL HUNTSVILLE - 9/29 2000 fair in KATZ null, *Magic 16*, detailed legal ID over hour (ETH-MO)
 KCRG IA CEDAR RAPIDS - 9/29 1935 AI News, *16 Country*, Channel 9 Radar Weather, tight KATZ null (ETH-MO)

REPORTERS

- KVJ-GA KARL JETER/Stone Mountain, GA/HQ-150 + 4' amplified loop, LW
 HM-OH HUGH MONTGOMERY/Bethel, OH/R-5000 + 1000' terminated LW
 ETH-MO EARL HIGGINS/University City, MO//ICF-6500W
 RJT-NC ROBERT TIARA/Hendersonville, NC//
 SA-MB SHAWN AXELROD/Winnipeg, MB/R-70 + 100' LW or 3' loop
 BS-WV BILL (Mr. Convention) SWIGER/Bridgeport, WV//report via Ma Bell
 JB-MA JIM BAGGE/Springfield, MA//GE 7-2990A + LW
 JEL-MO J.E. LEWIS/Kansas City, MO//Grundig Satellit 400, RW Shotgun // Select-A-Tenna
 JB-TX JIM BOEHM/San Antonio, TX//ICF-2010 + Dual Tunable Audio Filter
 RD-IA RICHARD DAU, Jr./Iowa City, IA//R-1000 + RW Loop + Minnesota Twins bumper sticker
 Ed.-TX The guy who types this up every week//San Marcos, TX//



ABBREVIATIONS AND SPECIAL SYMBOLS USED IN DDX-E

||: parallel with or to - : to or into :00: the hour AC:Adult contemporary AP:Associated Press BBD:big band
 BRN:Business Radio Net C&W:country & western CHR:contemporary hit radio CID:code ID CL:call letter
 ContChr:contemporary Christian EZL:easy listening EE:English FF:French GOS:gospel IRN:Interstate Radio Net jx:jingle
 LSR:local sunrise LSS:local sunset MLB: Major League Baseball mx:music ncnws NPR:National Public Radio
 OC:open carrier pbp: play-by-play PSRA:pre-sunrise authority PSSA:post-sunset authority QRM:man-made interference
 QRN:natural interference QTH:location REL:religious ROK:rock 'n' roll RS:regular schedule \$:stereo SID:singing ID
 SRS:sunrise skip SS:Spanish SSB:Star Spangled Banner SSS:sunset skip TC:time check TT:test tones UC:urban
 contemporary UPI:United Press International wx:weather

73, Bill

Domestic DX Digest - West

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SPECIAL!

1080 KRPX UT Price
 10/16 0948 OLD format 0959 ID "Q-101
 KPRQ and 10-80 KRPX" (Silent Station
 Returns to the air) (0W-CO)

Midday to Midnight!

1070 KATQ MT Plentywood
 10/16 0943 Lcl ads. 0945 "Morning
 Devotion" faded. Fair in KNX null. (0W-CO)
 1080 KNDK ND Langdon
 10/16 0930 Area Nx, Lcl spots, fair
 w/CKSA/KRPX QRM ND #21. (0W-CO)

1510 (KGA) WA Spokane
 10/17 0556 Off the air, presumably due to
 fires in the area. No other signals heard. (JW
 -OR)

1590 KTOH NE Wayne
 10/18 0949 Lcl Nx features and ads. to ID
 AM & FM ID..ABC Direction Nx. Good

signal dominating the channel. NE #42 (0W-
 CO)

TIS

530 WMVN227 OR Newport
 10/17 0537 New TIS, licensed to City of
 Newport & operated by the Chamber of
 Commerce. Tape about local tourist facilities
 & attractions. (JW-OR)

CONTRIBUTORS!

(0W-CO) John Wilkins Wheatfarms, CO - R-1000,
 4.238' Anguilla Loop
 (JW-OR) Jack Woods Waldport, OR - ICF-2010,
 Martens Loop

73
 Wayne

The Answer Man

Got a question about radio? Send it to NRC's Answer Man: Russ Edmunds - 753 Valley Rd.
 - Blue Bell, PA 19422-2052. No question is a dumb question, and Russ will answer all, from
 basic to highly technical. Watch for the answer in *DX News*!

virtually any point with known coordinates to within a very small margin of error, and achieve a vivid graphic display. Owing to the degree of map detail needed to support domestic sunset and sunrise DX in all parts of North America, however, it may be necessary, depending upon location of the DX'er's location of the target location(s) to purchase customized maps. For those on either the East or West Coasts, the combination of maps provided in the basic package plus the supplementary package should be adequate. For North American DX'ers using it for International DX, the maps contained in these packages will probably also be adequate.

The polar displays in the review package (two different scales for the North Polar projection and one for the South Polar) really do a superb job of graphically representing the effects of the seasonal extremes of light and darkness. The North Polar maps in particular clearly display the effects of these changes on trans-polar signal paths.

The method of map customization for specific locations is straightforward, and quickly accomplished. To add locations not already contained in the cities file provided, it is only necessary to obtain the latitude and longitude of the desired location and convert to degrees and hundredths of degrees, and the program does not recognize degrees and minutes. The zoom function is helpful, but it takes some getting used to, as any attempt to zoom to a map at a finer scale than is available will default to an adjacent map instead. The distance calculation feature is somewhat cumbersome without a mouse, but I consider this to be an "extra" and not a necessary feature. My only significant complaint is the inconvenience of moving back and forth between the map screens within the program and the corresponding data files which contain the city, coordinate and display parameters, which must be accessed either through DOS or your PC's file manager. When using a file manager, this is time-consuming during the customization process. Going through DOS only, it is even more so.

For the serious sunrise/sunset DX'er based in North America, regardless of specialization in domestic or international DX, whether ECB, shortwave, or amateur, this is an excellent package. Once customized with the appropriate city coordinates, this software can be used instead of sunrise/sunset maps either before DX sessions or during them, if you have a PC in the DX shack. If you're seriously into month-by-month targeting of DX stations for sunrise and/or sunset DX, as I am, this can simplify things considerably, provided you have access to the coordinates for some rather obscure places. I have even shown it to a couple of casual SWL's who found it sufficiently interesting to them to request information on ordering it. If it weren't for the time-advance feature, I might even have to break down and pick up a computer for my shack!

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Radio Roundup

News of radio personalities, of interest to DX'ers

Greetings all ... The audiophiles on the greater New York City area were recently treated to another Reunion Weekend on WCBS-FM. While the mode and frequency were FM, the subject was AM all the way. Returning to the airwaves that weekend were top jocks of the 50's and 60's, from stations such as WMGM, WINS, WABC, WHCA, WADO and WWRL. The live guest DJ list looked more like those who in the industry, Herb Oscar Anderson, Dan Ingram, Charlie Greer, Jocko, Ron Lundy, Jack Spector, Cousin Bruce Morrow, Eddie Baer, and others. On tape, during a special two hour Tributes section, Murry the K, Mad Daddy, B. Mitchell Reed, Paul Sherman, Allan Freed and Bob Lewis. It was truly a weekend of little sleep and I am sure that many recorders got a work out that weekend. As a special twist an 800 telephone number was available and fully jammed. Listeners had the opportunity to chat with the DJs or station representatives. In addition, a FAX number was used to solicit remembrances of the listeners. Many people took advantage of the opportunity. A real outpouring of affection for those DJs who best exemplified the spirit of Personality Radio, something which seems to have fallen into disfavor recently ... If you have a Reunion Show being planned in your area, be sure to let your fellow NRCers know about it! They are fun to listen to and a sure source of tension reduction in today's world. Rumors persist that CKLW is planning one. On the subject of CKLW, congratulations to fellow NRCer Tony Fitzhbert for the publication of his article in a major commercial listeners magazine concerning the history of CKLW. A fine job! ... NRCers interested in keeping up on broadcast happenings in Europe may wish to subscribe to a new publication titled the EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF COMMUNICATION. This new quarterly publication will be available from: Sage Publications, P.O. Box 5096, Newbury Park, CA 91359. Their flyer indicates a \$45 a year subscription rate with a special rate of \$36 annually for charter subscribers. If any NRCer decides to subscribe, be sure to share your observations on this new periodical ... The United States Court of Appeals has struck down the F.C.C.'s 24 hour ban on indecency standards. The Court ruled it unconstitutionally vague.

Pete Kemp (KZ1Z)

P. O. Box 73
Bethel, CT 06801-2203

Al Sikes, F.C.C. Chairman, says that the ruling will be studied. You can bet that Congress and the F.C.C. won't let the basic intent of this regulation die ... A follow up on the transmitting tower crackdown reported here months ago, radio station WOKJ faces fines up to \$250,000 for their failure to light the tower and to advise them that the station went off the air last July (91). They also failed to turn in their license or respond initially to the F.C.C.'s inquiries. It should be noted that their 390 foot tower was only 2.5 nautical miles from the local airport. The FAA wasn't even aware of it until August ... Variety reports Boston area radio station WRCA has dropped it on-air staff and gone all automated. It is currently leasing airtime to independent programmers. Look for a montage of programming to follow ... KYA and KSFO have both been put on the selling block by King Broadcasting. KYA commenced broadcasting in 1926 and KSFO, which has had those calls since 1935, actually began broadcasting in 1925 ... Money Magazine recently ran an article evaluating financial talk show hosts ... Interested in Old Radio Shows? Then checkout SPERDVAC, the Society to Preserve and Encourage Radio Drama Variety and Comedy membership in this organization will provide you with access to a huge library of old radio shows for your listening pleasure. Contact SPERDVAC, Post Office Box 7177, Van Nuys, CA 91409-9712 for details. Television's answer to Talk Radio, the Talk TV Network, is set to launch on September 16. Already signed on for hosting chores are Bruce Williams, Dr. Joy Browne, Pat McMahon (KTAR/Phoenix), Jim Bohannon, Carole Hemingway and Barry Farber. Individual shows will originate from New York, Washington, Los Angeles and Phoenix. The promoters say by September of 1992 they hope to be on 24 hours a day. When it kicks off, there will be 12 hours per day of programming. Ed Cooperstein is president of the outfit. He says the service's first-year operating costs will be \$7-million, and he predicts a \$2.5-million deficit during year one of operation. Talk TV will include 10 minutes of national and 4 minutes of local spot availability per hour. Rates have not, as yet, been announced. The Morgan Group has been administering marketing and affiliate efforts for Talk TV. Cooperstein

claims it has signed commitments which will bring the network about 2-million subscribers at sign-on. But he also says he has high hopes that the figure may grow to four or five million by September 16. To date, according to Cooperstein, all agreements have been with cable systems. But, he says, a number of broadcasters have approached him about clearing the material. And, if deals with cable operators don't work as quickly as anticipated, the Talk TV president says he will strongly consider allowing broadcast t-v outlets to participate ... WTNH-TV8's Weather/Science Reporter, Geoff Fox (former NRCer in the late 60's) recently spent some time on the air explaining how you could use a portable AM radio, and small compass, for direction finding. He even explained the standard loopstick antenna found in most AM receivers. In conjunction with this report, he contacted a number of Connecticut area AM stations to find out their antenna's location, in order to explain the triangulation principle involved. Surprisingly, many of the stations didn't know exactly where they were, longitude and latitude-wise. The engineers would know, as that information is on their station license. An interesting segment, kind of like sticking a compass near a Space Magnet. While the technology today is toward the Global Positioning Satellites (GPS) it is nice to see reports of this nature reflecting basic broadcasting principles ... The Business Radio Network (BRN) has dropped its 800 call-in number, in favor of a "local" number where you pay the connect charges. I wonder if this is an indication that another specialized network is on the way out? ...

Bob Collins, morning man on WGN, has retained his number one spot in the Windy City ratings battle ... Rush Limbaugh seems to be hitting the airwaves in a BIG way. I see constant references to his show when checking into telephone BBSs. Bob Seybolt of WSPD in Toledo recently posted a message discussing Rush's impact in his area. He reported that beginning May 6, 1991, NewsRadio 1370 WSPD-AM (Toledo, OH) will become the nation's first radio station to offer it's listeners 6 hours of Rush Limbaugh every day. WSPD will repeat the 3-hour "Rush Limbaugh Program" from 3-6 p.m. in addition to airing the program live from Noon to 3 p.m. The programming change comes as the Limbaugh program has captured big ratings in the Winter '91 Arbitron book for Toledo (only 1 P.M. CHR has slightly higher numbers, with Rush grabbing 25-54 males in massive quantities). The programming theory is, this will introduce Rush to a whole new drive-time audience here. Un-

til now, the 3-6 p.m. local talk has been a tune-out for Rush fans, so programming feels there's nothing to lose from them, and something to gain from those who don't tune us in until after school or work ... Thomas H. White has updated his *Mystique of the Three Letter Call Signs and Broadcast Pioneer Broadcasters* articles. They are most interesting, comprehensive and well done. I recommend them highly if you are at all interested in the historical aspects of our hobby. They are available in the Broadcast Professional Forum of CompuServe, available by modem ... WPUT-1510 has switched to Country Western programming ... The Sweden Calling DXers bulletin says that the BBC is preparing to set up a fulltime All-News Radio Service ... Lynne Samuels has returned to the air waves on WABC -770. She was canned over a year ago and had been doing a once a week gig on a Long Island radio station. Listeners expect a return the liberal fireworks to the air ... Another former WABCer Jay Diamond was recently back in the BIG APPLE, filling in briefly for Gil Gross on WOR-710 ... 75 year old veteran radio talker Barry Gray recently fell down and broke his right hip. He was still recovering from having broken his left hip a year ago. He states that he has so many metal pins in him now that he'll surely set off the airport's metal detectors. He had been doing his show from a link set up in his apartment ... Want a little Radio Trivia? Of course you do! What did CONELRAD stand for? Most of us probably remember those little CD triangles on 640 and 1240 on older radios. CONELRAD stands for Control of Electromagnetic Radiation ... While we are on the subject of radio trivia, have you ever read the *Radio Boys* or *Radio Girls* books from the 1920's? They are real collectibles for radio addicts. They were published by Grosset & Dunlap and A.J. Burt Publishing. A number of authors penned this series including: Allen Chapman, Gerald Breckenridge Frank Howell, J.W. Duffield, Wayne Whipple and probably others, according to Havana Moon. The *Radio Girls* series was written by Margaret Penrose ... WLAD-800 recently had a call-in show with its General Manager fielding questions from listeners, saying what they liked and disliked about WLAD's programming. That can be a dangerous proposition, but it went well. The G.M. explaining its on-air schedule and defining the broadcasting jargon as he went, e.g. demographics and "the book". One of the last callers used such terms as DXing and liking CKLW, so there must be at least one other MW DXer in the area. Jack Wheeler,

formerly of KDKA in the 70's, has signed on as the new morning man on Pittsburgh's WJAS-AM ... NBC Newsman Douglas Kiker has died of a heart attack ... Recent events in the Soviet Union have again shown the power of radio broadcasting in reporting international events. It was interesting to note that Gorbachev stated in a news conference, following the failed coup attempt, that his guards erected wire antennas to pull in the B.B.C. and V.O.A. news to find out what was happening in Moscow, as the events unfolded. How ironic that a country known for its jamming efforts a short few years ago, now used the medium to its advantage ... Former F.C.C. Chairman Dennis Patrick is now President of Time Warner Telecommunications ... Safety is always an important consideration for people involved in communications, whether they be listeners or broadcasters. Sadly accidents do happen. Recently Georgia's WZAL-AM General Manager was making adjustments to the station's transmitter and was electrocuted. It is well worth the effort for anyone associated with electronic communications equipment to play it safe! Is your equipment grounded? Do you follow proper safety procedures when performing maintenance on your gear? If using an external antenna system, do you have a disconnect switch in case of lightning? ... Bob Janney, currently a contract engineer at New York's WNEW, is looking to put a 100 KW station on the air from South Caicos Island in the British West Indies, by January of 1992. The station will operate on 530 Khz and will be known as Radiovision Christiana. The parent company is a religious organization based in Patterson, New Jersey ... The National Association of Broadcasters (N.A.B.) has filed comments with the F.C.C. requesting that they loosen up on their 12/12 rule pertaining to station ownership ... WKRP returns to the airwaves, via first run syndication in September. While this is really TV news, the nature of this program, a radio station, makes it fodder for this column. Anybody who has ever been associated with a commercial radio station can find something to laugh about in this series. The characterizations are priceless. The comical situations that they get in to really do reflect the day to day happenings in many radio stations to some degree. Many of their "promotions" were so funny that they have actually been duplicated by radio stations across the country, with original cast members actually taking part ... In Houston, KSEV-AM's radio personality Dan Patrick, recently reported on his own vasectomy LIVE, from the office's of urologist Dr. David Mobley. I would not expect a lot of imitators to duplicate this ac-

tion in other markets. During the surgery he read sports stories and discussed the Astro's winning streak. Mr. Patrick noted the importance of addressing such issues in today's world ... The following is excerpted from the 8/6/91 edition of the Toledo (OH) Blade. The Battle of the Broadcasters continues in Toledo. Stratford Research has fired back at two rivals who asked the Federal Communications Commission to deny a license application to let Stratford operate WSPD-AM (1370) and WLQR-FM (101.5). Stratford Research, a Toledo-based market research and consulting firm, has tentatively agreed to buy the two stations from Commonwealth Communications Inc. of Harrisburg, PA for \$4 Million. But opposition surfaced last month from Booth American Co. (operators of WTOD-AM 1560 and WKKO-FM 99.9) and Noble Broadcast of Toledo (operator of WVKF-FM 92.5) who operate stations in this market. The FCC is reviewing the proposed sale to determine if it should grant Stratford a license to operate WSPD and WLQR. Stratford is owned by four brothers, headed by Lew Dickey, Jr. He is the son of the owner of Midwestern Broadcasting Inc., which operates WWWW-AM (1470) and WWWW-FM (105.5) in Toledo. Last month Booth and Noble filed petitions asking the FCC to deny licenses to Stratford on the grounds that it would put four area radio stations under control of the family of Lew Dickey, Sr. In its petition, Booth outlined business and personal arrangements between the elder Mr. Dickey and his sons; (editors note: it's publicly known that Dickey Sr. is providing roughly half the financing for the deal.) Booth claimed this showed that he would exert influence over the operation of WSPD and WLQR if Stratford ran the stations. In its reply, Stratford asserts it would operate the stations as independent and competitive entities and disputes allegations that links exist with Midwestern that would violate FCC regulations. And even if the arrangements outlined by Booth and Noble exist, Stratford claims past court rulings suggest they wouldn't constitute grounds to deny the licenses. Further, Lew Dickey Jr. asserted, in Stratford's reply, that Booth fears Stratford's track record as a consultant skilled in turning poorly ranked radio stations into competitive operations. Mr. Dickey said Booth American has a reputation as a litigious organization that uses petitions to delay license rulings... Information for this column may be sent to me at the address above or via the following: CompuServe 72376,2557, FIDO Echo areas: SWL, HAM and Broadcasting, Genie P.KEMP3, Prodigy SMHB11A, ham radio packet KZ1Z @ KLUOL.CT ... So much for now.

impedance you'll get around 15 mW. Change R7 to 33 Ohms and the maximum level increases to around 80 mW. This has made listening with my Icom HPL or Koss HV-1A headphones more enjoyable. This level is not great enough to damage your 'phones. At minimum audio level no AC hum or noise is heard through the headphones.

To further increase audio output ESKAB suggests operating the audio power amplifier off of the unregulated power supply instead of the +10.8 V supply as it normally is. This would greatly increase the audio power and the power dissipation on the audio/IF circuit board and most likely reduce the audio distortion to boot. It should also increase the audio hum. I have not tried this modification.

I have one area yet to address. The CPU clock noise emanating from the NRD prevents the use of a loop antenna in its vicinity. In fact, I have had to resort to remotely tuned loop antennas (1 meter on a side) mounted outdoors to use this receiver. I have even been asked, in the past, to take my radio out of the DX tent while on DXpeditions because of its emissions. To prove this, simply place a simple AM portable - or even a Sony ICF-2010 on LW/MW - near the operating NRD. The receiver emits a tremendous amount of clock hash. The top and bottom panels would offer electrostatic (E field) shielding if they made good electrical contact with the chassis. To improve this, I simply sanded the paint off of the inside covers around the screw holes using a fine emery cloth. This seems to be effective for reducing some clock type signals. Check your receiver with an ohmmeter for continuity between the back panel and the edge of the painted top and bottom. You may not need to alter yours.

Much of the interference is from the various clock oscillators and their sub-harmonics. For example, the main CPU has a clock at 4,915 kHz - four times the 1228.8 kHz birdie the receiver is known for. Other clock type signals include the 12.8 MHz TCXO reference, the 6 MHz front panel CPU, the 32.xx kHz "clock" signal, and the absolute worst offender of all, the fluorescent display inverter supply operating around 13 kHz. This last source is horrendous. Just place a MW portable in the vicinity of the front panel and listen!

Most of the true clock signals are MOS or C-MOS level. The only exception is the power inverter for the display's filament and the -35V supply. The filaments run the whole width of the plastic front panel and radiate the 13 kHz square wave and its harmonics quite well. This is the source of the majority of the hash. I have tried to decouple the 9V supply feeding the inverter with no improvement. The only improvement I have found is by cutting off the power to the inverter! This, of course, makes the entire display go blank requiring you to remember the Mode/BW/AGC/Frequency settings, etc. I have found this cure to be conditionally acceptable.

You can disable the inverter by cutting the wire going to the front panel display P/J-38-1 (+9 V) and splicing two short wires to the severed ends. Now connect the other ends of the wires to the unused normally closed contacts of the Noise Blanking switch. When the NB switch is now pulled out (Wide), the display will go off and the majority of the noise and hash your loop antennas receive will disappear as well. LCD and LED displays have distinct advantages!

I enjoy my 525 now as I never did before. It is truly a DX rig. I now use my headphones directly connected to the 525 for the majority of my weak signal DXing. When conditions allow speaker monitoring, I either DX with a rather inexpensive 6.5" 4 Ohm auto speaker in a baffle or use an external audio amplifier and a Radio Shack Minimus 7.

I now have better and steeper selectivity choices, a more responsive AGC, cleaner audio, better weak signal (S+N)/N ratio, and practically no more background hiss. The cost for all of these modifications was less than the cost of one Collins filter! The improvements have certainly helped adjacent channel performance on MW with both a long wire and a loop antenna. Write Harm-Heyen Broeze, a very helpful fellow DXer at ESKAB, P.O.B. 32001, S-200 64, Malmoe, Sweden for current prices and availability of the filters and AGC modification boards.

Test Conditions

Signal Source: AN/URM-25D modulated by HP-209A
 (S+N)/N Measurements made with AGC off, AM detection, RF gain = max, AF gain = 10:00, Output taken at Speaker = 8 Ohm load
 Receiver Input = 1 uV 30% modulated by 400 Hz
 Bandwidth Measurements made with AGC On; 1 uV (unmod) = reference
 -6 db points found when 2 uV input applied, tune for reference
 -60 db points found when 1,000 uV applied, tune for reference
 -100 db points found when 100,000 uV applied, tune for reference
 Bandwidth = difference between reference frequencies
 (crude measurement technique - but only method available)

| Bandwidth | Original | | Modified | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| | -6db/-60db (kHz) | (S+N)/N (db) | -6db/-60db/-100db (kHz) | (S+N)/N (db) |
| AUX | 12.2/22.3 | 9.6 | 3.4/4.5/11.1 | 16.1 |
| WIDE | 5.7/8.3 | 10.8 | 4.7/7.8/10.0 | 15.3 |
| INTER | 2.2/4.2 | 12.4 | 2.2/3.8/6.1 | 17.2 |
| NAR | 1.8/3.5 | 13.6 | 1.8/3.1/5.3 | 18.1 |
| FM Mode (See AUX) | | | 6.8/13/ - | >14 |

Note: -100db BW not measureable on unmodified 525

Modifications:

1. Audio modifications
2. Increase AGC attack & decay time
3. Decouple AGC
4. ESKAB FL1 & FL2
5. ESKAB 4 kHz AUX filter with board
6. ESKAB AGC modification
7. Cut FM detector (add wider BW)
8. Operate from battery
9. Increase headphone level
10. Decrease radiated CPU clock noise
11. Employ unused NB switch to lower display inverter radiation

Sensitivity

| NRD-525 - Stock Preamp | Modified (uV) | R-71A | R-8 |
|---------------------------|------------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| | | On/Off | On/Off |
| 3 db S+N/N | | | |
| USB 7.105 MHz | .06 | .04/.09 | .05/.13 |
| BW (AGC = Off) | INTER | INTER | 2.7 kHz 2.3 kHz |
| 30% Mod 400 Hz | | | |
| AM 7.105 MHz | | | |
| 1 uV LINE or REC Output | | | |
| S+N/N (SYNCH) | 10 db | 14+db | 12/8 db 17/12 db |
| BW (AGC = Off) | WIDE | WIDE | 6.5/4 db 4 kHz Wide (8 kHz) |
| S9 = | 100 uV | 100 uV | 50 uV 110 uV |

Selectivity

| Bandwidth @ -6/-80 db (Shape Factor) | Stock NRD-525 | | Modified NRD-525 | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|-------|------------------|-------|
| | | | | |
| AUX | 14.5/27 kHz | (1.9) | 3.2/6.8 kHz | (2.1) |
| WIDE | 6.1/10.4 kHz | (1.7) | 4.4/7.9 kHz | (1.8) |
| INT | 2.4/6.8 kHz | (2.8) | 2.2/4.3 kHz | (2.0) |
| NAR | 0.3/2.8 kHz | (9.3) | 1.8/3.7 kHz | (2.1) |
| FM | | | 6.9/13.6 kHz | (2.0) |
| BW | R-8 | | R-71A | |
| 6.0 | 6.5/12.2 kHz | (1.9) | | |

| | |
|-----|--------------------|
| 4.0 | 4.4/13.6 kHz (3.1) |
| 2.3 | 2.7/10.7 kHz (4.0) |
| 1.8 | 2.1/6.9 kHz (3.4) |
| 0.5 | 0.5/1.5 kHz (3.0) |
| W | 8.2/11.8 kHz (1.4) |
| N | 2.7/6.6 kHz (2.4) |

AGC = Fast, f = 7.105 MHz; V(s) = 20,000 uV - rcvr tuned until s meter drops to 2 uV level to determine BW.

College Sports Networks

Rick Dau

Apt. E-9, 401 Emerald St.
Iowa City, IA 52246-3003

Network listings for team sports stations

Welcome once again! This time around, I'm listing some of the mini-networks that cover the smaller colleges around the country. I am providing these to you, the DX populace, so that the small schools get the recognition they deserve alongside the Division I-A college powers. Here they are:

IDAHO VANDALS

630 KIDO-ID
790 KJRB-WA
1080 KVNI-ID

CENTRAL MICHIGAN CHIPPEWAS

1480 WSDS-MI

EASTERN MICHIGAN HURONS

1600 WAAM-MI

ILLINOIS STATE REDBIRDS

1230 WJBC-IL

NO. DAKOTA STATE FIGHTING SIOUX

790 WDAY-ND

NORTHWESTERN WILDCATS

Dave Bennett, Brian Davis

780 WBBM-IL

SOUTH DAKOTA COYOTES

1050 KLOH-MN 106.3 KVHT-SD
1490 KORN-SD

SO. DAKOTA STATE JACKRABBITS

570 WNAX-SD
910 KJJQ-SD

WESTERN ILLINOIS LEATHERNECKS

100.1 WKAI-IL

All of the above lists (except Northwestern) were sent to me by the NRC's resident sports nut, Ken Onyschuk. Thanks, Ken! The NU Wildcats were monitored by myself during their game with Ohio State on Oct. 19th.

Bowl season is nigh, so I'll be accepting football networks for one last column during the holiday season. From here on in, however, basketball networks will be the rule of thumb for CSN. I would like to have, if possible, lists for teams that have been hoop powerhouses in recent years (Duke, Indiana, UNLV, Seton Hall, and others), but, as usual, any info you can send my way is quite welcome at this QTH. See you in a few weeks. Meanwhile, sit back, turn on that radio, and enjoy the game!

KPRV

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POTEAU, OKLAHOMA 74953

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A Review of Geoclock 4.2 ... by Dave Schmidt

Description:

Recently, I was provided with a review copy of the GEOCLOCK program. This software displays the current time with a map of the earth, along with various maps of portions of the earth. It displays sun position, along with local sunrise, sunset times, the sun's azimuth and elevation. The dark, light and twilight portions of the respective map displays are also visible. Various city locations are superimposed on the maps, along with the local times. Additional locations can be added. It features variable frequency of screen update, with a default of every five seconds. The terminator is shown as locations where the sun's center, ignoring atmospheric effects, is the specified angle above the horizon. The default value coincides with civil sunrise and sunset where the sun's edge just breaks the horizon. The defaults can be overridden with values corresponding to other definitions of sunrise, sunset or twilight at the user's option.

GEOCLOCK is distributed by its creator, Joseph R. Ahlgren, 2218 N. Tuckahoe St., Arlington, VA 22205-1946. It is distributed as Shareware, with the provision that once the initial review period has elapsed, the user remit for the cost of the software, at which time certain updates and additional features would be provided. A number of these items have also been reviewed and are discussed herein.

The basic package contains 26 maps, including one world map, a 48-state US map, three polar maps, as well as others covering, in various scales, all of the world. The more detailed scales cover North America. Customization of cities can be accomplished initially via a city file provided, which contains the longitude and latitude coordinates for each of over 200 cities. Times for these cities can be shown on the maps or not, at the user's choice. The programs rely on the PC's internal system clock as a base, however the actual screen time can be adjusted as needed to project various scenarios.

System Requirements:

The program requires a hard drive, a minimum of 200K available RAM, a graphics adaptor, and monitor. It is designed to support computers with a 256K EGA, VGA or SVGA board. A separate setup procedure is required for CGA, Hercules, MCGA, AT&T 640x400 and PC3270 graphics.

The single copy price is \$30.00, with quantity discounts available. It comes on two 360K 5.25" floppy disks, although it is available for additional charge of \$5.00 on a single 720K 3.5" disk. Although not stated, it would follow that the additional charge for 3.5" disks would apply to all of the packages.

Features:

The supplementary package I reviewed contained an additional 18 maps, comes at a cost of an additional \$20.00, for a single disk. The number of maps provided may vary in future releases. The extra features package includes the ability to calculate azimuthal distances between cities established on a map and the ability to "zoom" from one map to another when the same coordinate point is featured on various scale maps.

A Ham Operator's add-in package is also available, which includes customized call-sign indexes and a customized azimuthal-equidistant projection map centered on the user's location. The cost for this package is also \$30.00.

Additional custom-designed maps may be purchased for either the basic or Ham package for an additional \$30.00 each. A free Remote Bulletin Board System (RBBS) provides support for registered users, and always has the latest version available for downloading. Interested parties may use the RBBS as a forum for information and program exchanges concerning GEOCLOCK.

The programs utilize time information from the World Data Bank II, and are updated regularly for changes in Daylight Time observances around the world as available, as well as for time zone changes.

Operation:

I have found this package to be both interesting and useful. It is possible to plot, in advance, the actual twilight, sunset and sunrise times for

Hartford's Morning Man Heads for the Sunset

By JACK CAVANAUGH

ALMOST out of money, without a job and more than 3,000 miles from home, Bob Steele was not exactly on top of the world on Sept. 30, 1936. After five months in Hartford during the peak of the Depression, he had decided to accept a friend's offer of a ride back to California the following day.

With little else to do, Mr. Steele had a half-hour to kill before a Sherlock Holmes movie matinee was to start at the old Princess Theater on State Street. Spoking the Travelers Insurance Company building nearby, Mr. Steele decided to go inside and see if he could get an audition for an announcer's job with radio station WTIC.

"I'd already done auditions at WTIC and WDRG and hadn't heard anything," Mr. Steele recalled recently. "If they weren't going to hire me, I certainly didn't think WTIC was, since it was, and still is, Hartford's main radio station."

State's Strongest Station

But Mr. Steele was in luck. The station was indeed looking for an announcer and had already auditioned 13 candidates without hiring anyone. After listening to Mr. Steele's style, the station's management offered him \$33 a day as a staff announcer on a six-month trial.

"I make more than double that now," he said.

Tomorrow, exactly 55 years from the day when he was hired, Mr. Steele will do his final broadcast for WTIC, whose 30,000-watt signal makes it the state's most powerful radio station. He said he is ending the longest-running affiliation between a station and an announcer in broadcasting history.

"Fifty-five's the limit in Connecticut," Mr. Steele said, referring to the maximum highway speed. "And I decided that should be my limit, too."

There are bound to be skeptics out there, since Mr. Steele, who turned 80 years old on July 13, has threatened to retire several times. The first time was just before his 50th anniversary

ings and 5:30 to 10 A.M. on Saturdays. Mr. Dean, meanwhile, has returned to his early evening sports show.

For the past 10 years, one of Mr. Steele's four sons, Phil, a lawyer, has appeared on the station with his father on Saturdays. Phil Steele will continue to do the Saturday morning sports reports. Bob Steele and his wife, Shirley, who have been married for 53 years, have three other sons — Robert, a former Congressman and onetime Republican gubernatorial candidate, Paul and Steven — and eight grandchildren.

Mr. McCarthy said that succeeding Mr. Steele is a daunting challenge.

but it's unlikely that listeners will ever hear Mr. McCarthy say "across the pond" in referring to England or hear him, on the spur of the moment, telling them that there are 15 million apples in the United States. Now it is likely that, out of the blue, Mr. McCarthy will mention that the WTIC morning show is listened to "by millions — 15 million, to be exact," as Mr. Steele said his audience a few weeks ago. "How do I know it's 15 million? Because I've checked."

Other personal touches that have delighted Mr. Steele's audiences will be missed, too. He noted birthdays of listeners 80 and older and wedding anniversaries of couples married at least 50 years. And he mentioned the anniversaries of obscure events in history. On Sept. 17, for instance, he noted that on that date in 1908 the



Bob Steele is ending what may be the longest run for an announcer on one radio station.

at WTIC in 1966. He talked about stepping aside the following year as well.

Whenever Mr. Steele mentioned retirement in the past, the station's top executives, aware of his huge ratings as WTIC's longtime morning man, induced him to stay on. But about a year ago he told the management that he had definitely decided to sign off on Sept. 30.

"I think that turning 80 had a lot to do with it, although I feel fine," he said in his office on the 19th floor of the Gold Building in downtown Hartford surrounded by photographs of him with scores of celebrities, especially sports figures like Babe Ruth and Muhammad Ali. "I got to the point where I felt I was imposing by staying around so long, and that it was time for me to move on."

No one at WTIC pushed Mr. Steele, who has been doing his morning show for 48 consecutive years. "Bob made his own decision and is sticking with it," said Bill White, the program director, who was born 25 years after Mr. Steele's first WTIC broadcast. "We would love to have him stay."

As a child in Pittsburgh, Mr. White said, he was "ten able to pick up

WTIC before sunrise. In those dark hours, Mr. White said, his inners in a radio career was sparked by the voice of Bob Steele.

Mr. Steele has cut back on his work schedule in the past two years. But when he was on the air six days a week from 5:30 until 10 A.M., he had the largest audience share of any morning show in the nation's 50 largest markets. And he retained his popularity without changing his style. While many drive-time personalities lean to insulting humor and boorish behavior, Mr. Steele has remained a model of decorum, an old family friend with a slightly gruff deep baritone voice that both informs and entertains.

More Than 400,000 Listeners

In 1989, the last year he did the entire show six days a week, his share of the audience was 25.1, meaning that one-quarter of those listening to radio in the market were tuned to Mr. Steele. By contrast, the second largest share in the Hartford area during those hours was a 12.6 for WTIC-FM. Before FM became a factor in ratings, Mr. Steele's share was even higher — a remarkable 38.9 in 1973.

broadcast motorcycle races and worked for \$95 a month as a time-keeper in a carrot field for the Works Progress Administration. He had been lured to Connecticut by a friend, George Lamon, who promised motorcycle races at old Bulkeley Stadium in Hartford and offered him a job at \$130 a month. But by late September the season had ended, and Mr. Steele was on the verge of driving back to California, when he was hired by WTIC.

For his final show tomorrow Mr. Steele has no special plans, he said. "We'll just do the regular things," he said. But for yesterday's program, his final four-and-a-half-hour show he said he was planning to play a lot of old favorites, including Artie Shaw, Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey, Spike Jones, Frankie Laine, Dean Martin and Julia Sanderson and Frank Crumit, a well-known radio guest of the 1930's.

After he retires, Mr. Steele said, he and his wife are hoping to travel around the country. "I don't like to fly," he said. "So we'll do it by car." He might even visit his hometown, Kansas City, Mo., he said.

And Mr. Steele said he wasn't ruling out a comeback. "Maybe when I'm 85 and feel even better than I do now, someone may say they want me back on the radio," he said. "And who knows? I might be bored. I might just agree to do it."

Over the years Mr. Steele's daily audience has been estimated to include more than 400,000 listeners throughout southern New England, said WTIC's research director, Jim MacPherson.

Ross Miller, vice president for special projects for the Ten Eighty Corporation, which owns the radio station and WTIC-TV in Hartford, said, "Bob spans generations. Grandchildren of people who were big fans of his back in the 40's now listen to him with their children. He's a broadcasting phenomenon whose hallmark has been consistency."

Next to Mr. Steele, Mr. Miller has been with the station the longest, 45 years.

For two years Mr. Steele has been tapering off — or "fading out," as he likes to describe it. In June 1989 he began to share the morning show with Tom McCarthy, who will be his replacement. Then in January 1990 Mr. McCarthy and Arnold Dean, the station's veteran host of sports talk shows, took over the time from 5:30 to 9 A.M., leaving Mr. Steele to broadcast from 9 to 10 on weekday morn-

Continued

The New York Times
-via Tony Fitzherbert

Musings

of the Members

Thoughts from NRC members ... the opinions expressed in this column are those of the individual writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the editors, publishers, or the National Radio Club, Inc.

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Times are local per Muse.

MARK CONNELLY - 30 WILLIAM ROAD - BILLERICA, MA 01821-6079

Some local items first, WNSH-1570 (Beverly/Danvers, MA) has been silent since late Sept. Sometimes an OC appears, most of the time they are off totally, leaving WPEP on top, well o/CKLM and 2 NY stations (Riverhead & New Amsterdam). At noon, the stations w/WPEP are only detectable by using phased LW's. On 740, the WLVG call has been replaced by WWEA, playing primarily light-rock and uses the slogan 'Earth Radio'. One announcement stated they would offer free air time to environmental organizations. Address given is PO Box 848, Needham Heights, MA. Operation is 'normal daytime'. Signal strength seems unchanged so it sounds like the same power from the same Cambridge sight. Of course, power, schedule and facilities may change later. I've found a great local DXpedition sight, Granite Pier in Rockport, MA. There's room for at least 300' of wire and its seaside location brings in TA's, Caribbean stations, etc., screaming in just after sunset. The location is about a 40 mile, 50 minute ride from the house and from my office in Tewksbury. I'll be getting back from a CA business trip by the time this reaches print. While there, I expect to get together w/Neil Kazaross and (possibly) other DXers. There is some DXpedition activity planned here in the NE on 11/8-9. If all could 'hit the dials' those days and flood the DX columns with loggings, that would be great! International DX is of special interest. Some info relayed to me from a European source says that there is a Greek station on the clear frequency of 1615. So if the Vatican on 1611 is strong, slide up and look for Greek music on 1615. On 10/10, I had quite a run of Caribbean & SA stations just after sunset. It was quite auroral, so TA's were limited to N Africa, w/Senegal-765 at local-like strength. Angola-1088 was noted. Hindu music on 600 (Surinam) & 760 (Guyana) made for interesting listening. Receptions were from Rockport, MA w/the Sony ICF2010 fed by 2 on the ground 100' LW's going thru the MWDX5 phasing unit. It looks like a good season is shaping up! Dallas Lankfords Drake R8 articles have steered me away from that RX, at least until they get the 'bugs' out. 73/Good DX

KARL JETER - 2115 SCARBROUGH ROAD - STONE MOUNTAIN, GA 30088

Sure is nice to see the "weeklies" again, and that must mean the DX season is in full swing. Unfortunately, not much DX to report so far, more on that later. Verie count has edged to 1451 w/the addition of letters from WMLX-1180 & WHMT-1190, the former rec'd after many f/ups. The latter reported they were on making transmitter repairs when I heard them (10PM they were very strong in WOWO's null). I still have a few holdouts from last season, namely: WPTB-850, WQBA-1140, WLGO-1170 and several mentioned in an earlier Muse that I had questions for. So far in '91, I have 21 replies for 30 reports for a 70% return rate. It's good to see some CPC Tests being listed but the first, KCRV-1370 is unn. here as I already heard/verified them in '87 for a reg. sked. report. I may tune in and drop them a postcard anyway. Only new logging of late, 10/15 WATX-1590 7:32AM w/Rise & Shine Radio Magazine program/AC music. I am making some preliminary plans for some beverage DX peditions this fall. I have already checked w/my aunt & uncle located in E AL and cleared it w/them. Now, if only their cows will cooperate! (I actually prefer to call cows 'beverage eaters' as experience has shown!). Another possibility, a lot closer to home, is a site only about 5 miles from my house. My sons 'Cubmaster' has a farm in S Dekalb Co. near Arabia Mountain (which is, in fact, a smaller version of Stone Mtn). That entire area is solid granite underneath, and if my understanding of ground conductivity is correct, it should be an ideal location. If any experts out there know differently, I'd love to be corrected before I go out there-hi! Of course, w/solid granite under, making a good ground might be a slight problem, but there are areas of enough soil so that should be OK. I may be going on a DX pedition within a few weeks, weather permitting. Time to do some work, so you all are on your own! 73's. (Sorry for the couple of lines of bad print, the ribbon decided to self destroy-hi!-DWS)

MIKE HARDESTER - 3118 GAITWAY COURT - JACKSONVILLE, NC 28546-6973

Greetings! Just a brief Muse to pass along my address change. After recurring receipt of damaged mail, and experiencing missing parcels and letters, a change was necessary. Also, with a transfer to a new command (Naval Hospital) on base, a change would have eventually been necessary. I no longer go anywhere near the location of the former PO Box, so hopefully, the change will work out. With the transfer and getting settled into a new command, there has been no recent DX. All for now, very 73 & Best of DX!

DAVE SCHMIDT - P O BOX 11502 - WILMINGTON, DE 19850

OK...1st issue of December....all those in the NRC in the radio business, present & retired! Your reports would be appreciated! Locally, keep your eye (and ear) open for WRLB-1460 Florence, NJ, an OC was noted while near that area on 10/21. It'll be very directional E so it may be a toughie. CU next week!

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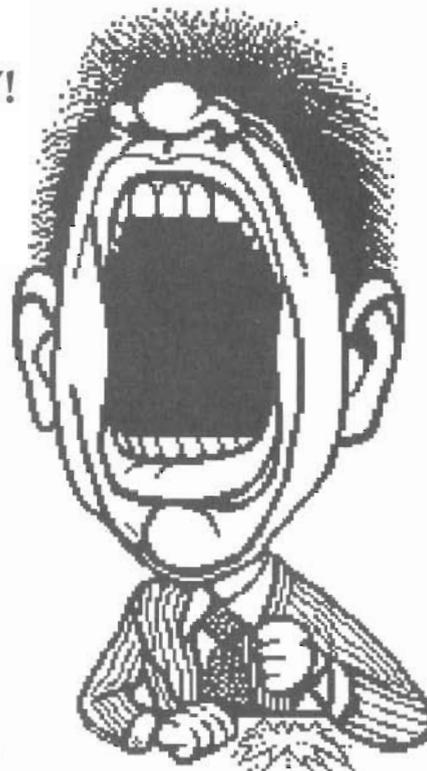
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