

DXN News

• Serving DX'ers since 1933 •

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Station Test Calendar

WNTP	PA	990	Feb. 23	0000-0100
WBIX	MA	1060	Feb. 24	0000-0200

From the Publisher ... IRCA is moving its convention to a later date this year than previous. From convention chairman Bill Block: "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 rate 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, Wuppatki 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. <billwblock@msn.com>

Unfilled positions ... We're still in need of volunteers for the following positions, as described in detail in V73, #27, the June '06 DXN: A person proficient with phpBB to maintain the e-DXN site;

one or more additional moderators for e-DXN; one or more persons to edit future NRC publications; a "DX Targets" editor; several editors to take over languished columns, especially "DX'er's Notebook"; finally, a DXN publisher, by June 2008 (we aren't kidding about this one, folks; pls will be able to DX all he likes after the June issue is out).

DXN Publishing Schedule, Volume 75

22.	Feb. 22	Mar. 3	27.	May 2	May 12
23.	Feb. 29	Mar. 10	28.	June 6	June 16
24.	Mar. 7	Mar. 17	29.	July 11	July 21
25.	Mar. 21	Mar. 31	30.	Aug. 8	Aug. 18
26.	Apr. 4	Apr. 14			

DX Time Machine

From the pages of DX News

50 years ago ... from the February 22, 1958 DXN: A letter from the FCC to NRC President Ray B. Edge was published. It accused the club of soliciting daytime and specified hours-licensed stations to violate Sec. 3.10 of the Commission's Rules by scheduling DX programs at specific dates and times during the experimental period between 0000 and local sunrise, adding that such violations could reflect adversely at license-renewal time.

25 years ago ... from the March 7, 1983 DXN: William J. Prater, then incarcerated in Terre Haute, IN, wrote about two stations which moved locations, KFKB-1050 Milford, KS, which moved to Wichita and eventually became KFBI, and WFBC-1330 Greenville, SC, which originated in Knoxville, TN.

10 years ago ... from the March 9, 1998 DXN: An article forwarded by Pat Griffith profiled a disk jockey in Ferndale, CA, Dan Lawrence, on KHUM-FM, who used a laptop computer to transmit his "voice" over the air. Is he still there?

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tax.)



AM Switch

Bill Hale w_r_hale@sbcglobal.net
6124 Roaring Springs Drive
North Richland Hills, TX 76180-5552



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

CALL LETTER CHANGES

	<u>Old Call</u>		<u>New Call</u>
540	WRRD	WI Jackson	WAUK // WRRD
920	WNJE	NJ Trenton	WCHR
1040	WCHR	NJ Flemington	WNJE
1230	WOLS	SC Florence	WOLH
1470	KYUU	KS Liberal	KSMM
1510	WAUK	WI Waukesha	WRRD // WAUK



CPs ON THE AIR

1570 KZLI OK Catoosa - CP for D1 1000/0 is on (moving from Pryor) at N36-15-52 W 95-42-34 is on the air. They now share one of KRVT-1270's towers at that site.

GRANTS FOR NEW STATIONS

1340 NEW HI Honaunau - CP granted for U1 10000/10000 (correct) at N19-31-13 W155-55-04, sharing a tower with KKON-790 and a proposed station on 1280 kHz.
1470 NEW TX Marathon - CP granted for U2 10000/250 at N30-13-09 W103-14-02.
1510 NEW AK Delta Junction - CP granted for U1 1000/1000 at N64-05-01 N145-44-00.

ACTIONS

990 WISK GA Lawrenceville - CP granted to make the move here (ex: 1390 in Americus) with U1 950/25 at N33-57-27 W84-00-17.
1150 WDEL DE Wilmington - CP granted for U4 10000/5000.

AMENDMENTS TO CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

1590 WHGT PA Chambersburg - Licensed for U2 5000/1000, WHGT has a CP for U4 15000/15 and an application for U4 15000/28 with a CoL change to Maugensville. This amendment is for U4 15000/58 at Maugensville.

APPLICATIONS

780 WAVA VA Arlington - Applies to relocate their transmitter 5.7 miles north to the site of the WTGB-FM-94.7 tower at N38-58-35 W77-06-52.
1010 WCNL NH Newport - Having made no progress constructing their CP for U12 10000/2000 CH 10000 or their application for U12 10000/1500 CH 10000, WCNL has now applied for U2 10000/1500.
1290 WWHM SC Sumter - Applies for U1 1000/250, downgrading their night power to go non-directional.

APPLICATIONS REINSTATED

1480 KLVL TX Pasadena - Application for U4 5000/500. [Frequency corrected from last issue]

APPLICATIONS DISMISSED

1270 WKBF IL Rock Island - Application for U2 2500/2500. WKBF remains U2 5000/5000.

LICENSE CANCELLATIONS/CALL LETTERS DELETED

880 KPOE TX Midland - CP for U4 2000/500.

LICENSE RENEWALS GRANTED

830 WCCO MN Minneapolis
1120 WBNW MA Concord

HEAR AND THAR

- OFF the air: **CHLN-550 Trois-Rivieres, Quebec**, as the programming has moved to 106.9 MHz, and **WMRO-1560 Gallatin, Tennessee**.
- Back on the air: **KJMU-1340 Sand Springs, Oklahoma** with R&B music and "Hot 1340" slogans.
- Thanks to **Bill Dvorak, Wayne Heinen, and Denis Picard**.

GRAVEYARD DX UPDATE

- * record held by DXer from North America (excluding Alaska)
- + record held by a DXer in USA/Canada where a Canadian/USA record exceeds that mileage

1240 kHz:

					<u>Miles</u>
WLAG	GA	La Grange	Ron Bailey	Shelby, TN	+ 248
WBML	GA	Macon	Jeff Falconer	Clinton, ON	* 754
WWNS	GA	Stateboro	Jeff Falconer	Clinton, ON	+ 772
WPAX	GA	Thomasville	Ron Bailey	Shelby, NC	+ 334
WSBC	IL	Chicago	Ron Bailey	Shelby, NC	+ 572
WTAX	IL	Springfield	Jeff Falconer	Clinton, ON	+ 493
WSFC	KY	Somerset	Jeff Falconer	Clinton, ON	+ 477
WJEJ	MD	Hagerstown	Jeff Falconer	Clinton, ON	+ 337
WCBY	MI	Cheboygan	Jeff Falconer	Clinton, ON	+ 203
WJIM	MI	Lansing	Ron Bailey	Shelby, NC	+ 542
WMFG	MN	Hibbing	Jeff Falconer	Clinton, ON	+ 611
WATN	NY	Watertown	Jeff Falconer	Clinton, ON	+ 281
WJTN	NY	Jamestown	Jeff Falconer	Clinton, ON	+ 156
WHIZ	OH	Zanesville	Ron Bailey	Shelby, NC	+ 326
WRTA	PA	Altoona	Jeff Falconer	Clinton, ON	+ 268
WHUM	PA	Reading	Jeff Falconer	Clinton, ON	+ 367
WBAX	PA	Wilkes-Barre	Jeff Falconer	Clinton, ON	+ 331
WTON	VA	Staunton	Ron Bailey	Shelby, NC	+ 246
WBES	WV	Dunbar	Ron Bailey	Shelby, NC	+ 219
WDNE	WV	Elkins	Ron Bailey	Shelby, NC	+ 273
WOBT	WI	Rhineland	Jeff Falconer	Clinton, ON	+ 410

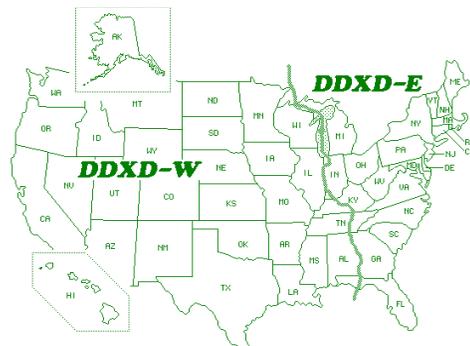
Domestic DX Digest

West: Bill Dvorak westlogs@aol.com (Division line is between East and Central time zones)

3358 Ridgeway Ave. - Madison, WI 53704-4327

East: Mike Brooker aum108@idirect.com

99 Wychcrest Ave - Toronto, Ontario M6G 3X8 CANADA



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

DDXD-West

FROM THE VAST WESTLAND

- ▲ I hope that everyone by now has gotten a chance to read the excellent article on ultralight receivers in last week's *DXN*, starting on page 19. This comprehensive and articulate article describes the success that a group of DXers is having using some amazing pocket-size Walkman-type receivers for serious DX! The article gives testimony to the productive DX that can be heard on these low cost receivers. I own two of these receivers, and have in past issues put some of my loggings using them in DDXD-W (as have others, including **John Tucker** and **Woz Wozniak** in this issue). I encourage others to try these receivers, and please share your experiences with your fellow DDXD readers.
- ▲ Along with the logging of a new one from his home in Omaha, **Ernie Wesolowski** sends along his experiences while listening for English-language stations during a recent trip to Ecuador. "The only EE station heard and the only U.S. station heard was WBAP 820 Fort Worth on 1/27 at 0700 ELT. This I heard from the Galapagos Islands, 620 miles west of the mainland of Ecuador in the Pacific. I spent 12 days trying for any EE on either AM or FM with my Grundig portable receiver. Only the BBC on shortwave was heard in EE when in Ecuador."
- ▲ We have a very nice turnout this week, and some very fine loggings. The next time *DXN* reaches your mailbox we will have "leaped" into March (albeit one day later than in the last three years).

Reporters

BW-OK	Bruce Winkelman AA5CO, Tulsa. R8, Quantum Phaser, two 50-foot wires.
DP-HI	Dale Park, Honolulu. Sangean ATS-818CS, Terk AM1000 loop.
EW-NE	Ernie Wesolowski, Omaha. Drake SW8, Quantum QX Pro loop.
FO-OK	Forest Osborn, Hooker. HQ-150, IC-R70, 4-foot loop, 200-foot longwire.
GH-IL	Greg Harris, Park Forest. Icom R75, Quantum loop or Hula Hoop Loop in window.
JJR-WI	John Rieger, South Milwaukee. Icom IC-R75, Kiwa loop, MFJ-959B tuner-preamp.
JRT-MO	John Tudenham, Joplin. C Crane CC Radio, built-in loop.
JT-AZ	John Tucker KG7RS, Mesa. Sony SRF-59 "Ultralight" Portable, internal ferrite loop.
JW-CO	John Wilkins, Wheat Ridge. Drake R-8, 4-foot box loop.
KO-IL	Ken Onyschuk, Lockport. Sangean Sonido or car radio.
SP-WI	Sheryl Paszkiewicz, Manitowoc. Grundig Satellit 800 and AOR loop.
WH-CO	Wayne Heinen, Aurora. Drake R8B, N/S Flag, E/W Flag, Modified 4 foot NRC Altazimuth loop, 15 foot vertical whip, Dual TG-1 Termination Gizmo w/2 BUF-F amplifiers, Mini-DXP5, DX Engineering RPA-1.
WW-MO	Woz Wozniak (a.k.a. StLDX), Saint Louis. Grundig Satellit 800 and Quantum QX Loop; Sony SRF-59 and Olympus 4100PC digital voice recorder.
Ed.-WI	Your editor, Madison. Drake R8B, Quantum QX Pro loop.

Station News

540	WAUK	WI	Jackson. I was taping the new 540 (ESPN ex-religious; see last week's DDXD-W Ed.-WI) for blind DXer Mike Lantz in Miami, whom I talk to regularly. I taped 540 on both Tuesday 2/12 and Wednesday 2/13. I was surprised when I played back the tapes to find that 540 and 1510 had switched calls; I didn't expect that. The new calls for 540 are WAUK, while its old calls WRRD have moved to 1510. The new 540 WAUK is very dominant here and can be heard during days at least two counties south of Lockport (Will County). On the night of 2/13 while in Frankfort, 16 miles East of Lockport, I heard 540 WAUK alone and good at 8 PM on my car radio. CBK Regina isn't as dominant here as it used to be. (KO-IL)
930	KBAI	WA	Bellingham. Per <i>Bellingham Herald</i> , station switched from "Good Time Oldies" via satellite to liberal talk 2/1, featuring Thom Hartmann, Rachel Maddow and Alan Colmes. (DP-HI)
1340	KJMU	OK	Sand Springs. 2/13 2340. Silent station noted back on the air with "Hot 1340" slogan, playing R&B/Urban Contemporary music. (BW-OK)
1420	KJDL	TX	Lubbock. Per KCBD-TV channel 11 website, station adds "Imus in The Morning," airing live 0700-1000. KJDL also simulcasts KCBD-TV's newscast at 1900. (DP-HI)
1510	WRRD	WI	Waukesha. New calls, ex-WAUK which went to 540 Jackson WI (see 540 above). The two stations remain // during daytimer WRRD's hours of operation. (Ed.-WI)
1570	KZLI	OK	Catoosa. 2/13. CP for move from Pryor to Catoosa apparently is on with dual city ID "Catoosa-Tulsa," "Tulsa's new 15-70" slogan and standards vocals (Streisand, Tony Bennett, Rosemary Clooney, Perry Como, Frank Sinatra etc.). (BW-OK) (In reply to Bruce's posting of this on the NRC listserv, Doug Smith tells us that on or about 2/11 the station filed for a license to cover for this CP. Ed.-WI)

DX Tests

1240	WKDK-	SC	Newberry. 2/11 0000. Not heard on scheduled DX test; only a big jumble. Monitored 0000-0030. (JW-CO)
1240	WKDK-	SC	Newberry. 2/11 0000-0030. My tapes had no sign of the test here, but thanks for the shot at it; stranger things have happened! (WH-CO)
1240	WKDK-	SC	Newberry. 2/11 0000-0030. StLDX unfortunately reports the WKDK DX test was not picked up here in Saint Louis. Obviously being a graveyard frequency there was much hash. Not a sign of sweep tones or Morse code. Isley Brothers, Blondie, and Peter Gabriel music (along with an unidentified commercial mentioning Stratford), was being picked up but was not the testing station (a tentative CJCS Stratford ON). Also heard QRM from unidentified religious /

gospel and a newstalk stations. Nonetheless a great big StLDX thank you going out to **Powell E. Way III** of WKDK and our own DX test coordinator **Jim Pogue** for bringing another successful reception for many. (WW-MO)

Off-frequency and Problems

1242/1258KKHK KS **Kansas City. 2/12 1700.** Spurs noted +/- 8 kHz from fundamental 1250, which was strong here. No IDs heard but did note the usual "La Super X" slogans. Do not know if they have changed calls to KYYS yet (see AMS #75-18 Ed.-WI) since no ToH ID was heard. (JW-CO)



1580.05 KOKBp OK **Blackwell. 2/11 0806.** Stillwater ads, Oklahoma mentions, CST time checks. Presumed KOKB based on this data, plus the fact they were heard on this frequency last year. (JW-CO)

Presumed, Tentative, UnID

960 CFACT AB **Calgary. 2/4 0602.** Tentative. Straight feed of ESPN Radio including Mike and Mike ad for AutoZone, ad for OnStar, back to Greeny and Golic at 0606. No sign of KKGN CA underneath. Poor. (DP-HI)

1020 KTNQt CA **Los Angeles. 2/3 0636.** Tentative. Ad in EE for weight loss supplement (phone 1-800-989-1017), back to SS. Unusual to hear EE here, but then the local Korean TV station airs lots of EE commercials, some of them 30 minutes long. Poor. (DP-HI)

1090 UNID **2/3 0614.** Heard what sounded like audio from a movie or TV show in Mandarin with dialogue and crying, at low level but almost local-like. QRM from KWAJ 1080 running open carrier; Marshall Islands 1098 inaudible. Also heard 2/4 0556 with woman with Chinese singing but smothered by Samoan pop from KWAJ. No sign of KPTK WA. (DP-HI)

1240 CJCSt ON **Stratford. 2/11 0000-0031.** Tentative. At first I thought it was the reception of the DX test from WKDK until I heard an unidentified commercial mentioning Stratford. Oldies music featuring "Peter Gabriel, Isley Brothers, and Blondie" with severe to extreme QRM and moderate QRN. Signal was fair to poor with the overall reception being the same. Moderate to severe propagation too. New (WW-MO)

Regular DX Loggings (times in ELT)

550 KCRS TX **Midland. 1/31 1948.** Women's junior college basketball, New Mexico Lady T-Birds vs. Odessa Wranglers; ID at 1949. (FO-OK)

600 WMT IA **Cedar Rapids. 2/7 2102.** Break in Iowa State basketball. "NewsRadio 600 WMT Cedar Rapids" and back to play by play. These guys must have fixed whatever was wrong as they're now dominant on the E/W loop again. (WH-CO)

680 WSMB TN **Memphis. 2/9 0825.** "Fox Sports Radio 6-80 WSMB" in between commercials for steel and finance with the overall reception and signal being good along with moderate QRM and QRN. New (WW-MO)

720 KDWN NV **Las Vegas. 2/4 0611.** "Savage Nation" with Michael Savage saying a Barack Obama ticket "would mean the death of America as we know it." Later heard at 0659 with ID "...In Las Vegas, this is Newstalk 7-20 KDWN"; into Fox news seven seconds behind KHVH 830. Poor to fair; semi-local KUAI off for a very rare silent period. (DP-HI)

740 KRMG OK **Tulsa. 2/9 1831.** Ad for Keystone car dealers in Sand Springs. Said they were "the largest used car dealers in Oklahoma." Then news commentary. Weak in CHWO null. (GH-IL)

750 WNDZ IN **Portage. 2/9 0900.** SS regional Mexican music with vocals into EE-speaking female with "This is Access Radio Chicago. AM 7-50 WNDZ Portage, Indiana, Chicago." Good overall with signal the same. Slight QRM and moderate to severe QRN. New (WW-MO)

760 KCCV KS **Overland Park. 2/9 1825.** Political speech, frequent mentions of "we're voting in Kansas." In WJR null. (GH-IL)

790 KFYO TX **Lubbock. 1/30 1944.** Talk about Texas politics, ad for wireless company in Lubbock, ID at 1945. (FO-OK)

820 WCPT IL **Willow Springs. 2/9 0925.** "The Randi Rhodes Show weekdays at 2 PM on WCPT 8-20 AM, Chicago's Progressive Talk." Formerly WAIT "Relevant

Radio." My first reception of the station since the "changing of the guard."
Overall reception and signal both good with slight QRM, QRN, and
propagation. New **(WW-MO)**

- 870 KJFZ TX Fort Worth. 2/9 1900. ID at 1900 and into SS and music. Fade-out (off air?) at 1915. New **(EW-NE)**
- 950 KDCE NM Espanola. 1/30 1859. SS music, ID on ToH in EE and SS. **(FO-OK)**
- 950 WWJ MI Detroit. 2/11 2040. Loud and clear for a few minutes topping usual KWOS and KKFN with local news and weather and clear WWJ ID. First time heard and first Michigan regional frequency of the 600 stations heard at this location since 1991. **(JRT-MO)**
- 970 WXQK TN Spring City. 2/10 0629. IDed with "Newstalk 1340 WBAC" (its // in Cleveland TN) by a male announcer. Weak... briefly surfaced out of the noise. New. **(GH-IL)**
- 1060 WILB OH Canton. 2/14 0727. Poor, no KYW. Steady to fade with WHFB QRM. "Living-BreadRadio.com" ID but no calls at 0730. **(JJR-WI)**
- 1090 KVOP TX Plainview. 2/7 2300. Clear ToH ID "The Mighty 1090 KVOP Plainview" into CBS news. New TX. **(JT-AZ)**
- 1160 KSL UT Salt Lake City. 1/30 0649. AutoPartsCenter.com ad, long ID "This is KSL Newsradio 1-Oh-2-Point-7 FM and 11-60 AM, KSL-FM Midvale, KSL Salt Lake City"; ABC-I news. Very poor to poor. **(DP-HI)**
- 1170 KFAQ OK Tulsa. 2/3 0625. "Brian and the Judge" with Brian Kilmeade and woman fill-in with conservative anti-Democratic talk show, outro "on Talkradio 11-70," national news brief and sports, Glenn Beck promo, back to show. Later heard at 0658 with ProFlowers ad (use the coupon code "BRIANANDTHEJUDGE"), ID "...Talkradio 11-70 KFAQ Tulsa... Right"; Fox news. Very poor to poor. **(DP-HI)**
- 1240 KADS OK Elk City. 2/11 1002. "It's 28 degrees at WWLS" to Sports Animal programming. As far as I know this is their only // on 1240. **(WH-CO)**
- 1250 KZDC TX San Antonio. 2/5 1940. Ad for local Geico rep, ESPN, "San Antonio's Sports Station" at 1943. **(FO-OK)**
- 1260 KTRC NM Santa Fe. 2/10 0859. Legal ID by female voice: "You're listening to KTRC AM, Talk 12-60 Santa Fe, progressive talk for Santa Fe and northern New Mexico"; CNN news was next at 0900. Generally good in KWYR null. **(JW-CO)**
- 1300 WBZQ IN Huntington. 2/14 0634. Very poor, steady with "on our sister station WLZQ...." **(JJR-WI)** (WLZQ is an FM station on 101.1 MHz, licensed to South Whitley IN. Both are owned by Larko Communications Inc. **Ed.-WI)**
- 1310 KOKX IA Keokuk. 2/10 1810. "1310 KOKX" ID by a male announcer. Fair signal with QRM. **(GH-IL)**
- 1330 KNSS KS Wichita. 2/10 1835. "The KNSS Weather Center forecast..." by an announcer named Greg. Strong signal. New. **(GH-IL)**
- 1410 KQV PA Pittsburgh. 2/11 2257. Local ads, calls, local news. NEW **(SP-WI)**
- 1410 WIHM IL Taylorville. 2/14 0810. Latin hymns and Latin language High Mass. Under WRMN. Weak. New **(GH-IL)**
- 1420 WGAS NC South Gastonia. 2/14 0628. Poor to very poor with many local calls, local mentions, dedications, etc. "AM 1420." **(JJR-WI)**
- 1440 KTNO TX University Park. 2/5 1902. SS male announcer with SS ID, then SS music. **(FO-OK)**
- 1450 KSIW OK Woodward. 2/10 1523. ESPN Radio, Spurs vs. Celtics basketball, ID at 1527 as "WWLS the Sports Animal" which is in Moore OK on 640. **(FO-OK)**
- 1450 WLYV IN Fort Wayne. 2/11 2059. Very readable in sudden fade-up with simple "WLYV Fort Wayne" ID by a woman. Not new but very rare at 257 miles. **(Ed.-WI)**
- 1510 KNNS KS Larned. 2/10 1517. ESPN Radio, ad for Chuck Henry Sales in Garden City KS. **(FO-OK)**
- 1530 KZNX TX Creedmoor. 2/9 1922. ID as "1530 ESPN Austin." **(FO-OK)**
- 1570 KZLI OK Pryor. 2/10 1447. Nostalgia music, Frank Sinatra, etc., ad for My Computer Works, ID at 1451. Call change from KMUR. **(FO-OK)** (And has since this logging changed CoL to Catoosa OK-- see "Station News" above. **Ed.-WI)**
- 1580 KWED TX Seguin. 2/11 0817. Texas scores, then NBA et. al.; program note for a Saturday event "...on KWED"; also noted a few minutes earlier with Community Calendar, CST time check. Fair at best. **(JW-CO)**
- 1590 WZRZ MS Jackson. 2/8 2218. "24-7. This is your must choice for information (QRM) Wendy

Bell, only on News Plus 15-90 WZRJ Jackson." Picked up while working late one night on the SRF-59 and Olympus VN 4100 PC digital voice recorder. Overall reception was fair to poor, while QRM and QRN were moderate to severe and propagation topping out at severe. New **(WW-MO)**

1590 WHLX MI **Marine City. 2/12 1958.** Detroit Pistons basketball, with Detroit leading Atlanta 51-41 in the second quarter. Dual legal ID // WHLS 1450 Port Huron MI. Good signal. Long-standing needed call change, ex-WSMA for me (but WIFN and WHYT in between). **(Ed.-WI)**

1630 KRND WY **Fox Farm. 2/9 1929.** On top of channel with SS music, ID as "La Grande." **(FO-OK)**

DDXD-East

REPORTERS

DA-SC **Doug Allen, Inman** – TS-850 transceiver, KAZ antenna
 JC-DE **John Cereghin, Smyrna** – FRG7, DX150B, 200-ft longwire
 BC-NH **Bruce Conti, Nashua** - SDR IQ, WR-CMC-30, MWDX-5, 50 x 75-ft SuperLoop antennas east with remote variable termination and south 1150-Ω terminated.
 HF-MI **Harold Frodge, Midland** – Drake R8B + 215' center-fed RW, 85' end-fed RW, 125' bow-tie
 HJH-PA **Harry Hayes, Wilkes-Barre** – Grundig S350, Kiwa pocket loop
 DP-QC **Denis Picard, Trois-Rivières** - ICOM IC-746 Pro, 145' attic wire, Kiwa loop
 NW-ON **Niel Wolfish, Burnt River** – AOR7030 and longwires.
 MKB-ON **Mike Brooker, Toronto** – Grundigs G5 & YB-400PE, Panasonic RF-2200



UNIDs

1100 – 2/9 1755 – Somebody under WTAM-Cleveland with Chic's "Le Freak" and Village People's "In The Navy". WISS?(**NW-ON**)

1240 - 2/12 0001 - Five-second test tones with a couple seconds between tones, continuing past 0002. Per Powell W4OPW the WKDK DX test ran as scheduled 2/11, so it wasn't WKDK. **(BC-NH)**

1590 – 2/10 1033 – Punjabi programming dominating frequency for a while. WONX-Evanston IL? **(NW-ON)**

TIS/HAR

1610 WPQX600 GA **Watkinsville** - 2/4 2105 - TIS emergency information. 10 watts! Fair but dominant on south favoring KAZ most evenings. ID every 30 seconds or so **(DA-SC)**

LOGGINGS

540 WETC NC **Wendell-Zebulon** - 2/3 2302 - SS programming and legal ID, then in EE: male announcer- "1330 WTIK Durham." **(DA-SC)**

WWCS PA **Canonsburg** - 2/10 1800 - Fair; *Radio Disney* promo string, "AM 540 WWCS Canonsburg, Pittsburgh." **(BC-NH)**

CBEF ON **Windsor** - 2/10 1900 - Good; local ID in French, "...Radio Canada, CBEF Windsor." **(BC-NH)**

550 WSVB VA **Harrisonburg** - 2/10 1900 - Fair; "For WSVB I'm meteorologist..." ID and ABC news. **(BC-NH)**

WDDZ RI **Pawtucket** – 1/30 0557 - 'Radio Disney' mentions by kids; "We're back in the ?, your music, your way, Radio Disney, AM 5-50, WDDZ, Pawtucket, ..." at 0559 into music. Found local CHLN off the air this morning, and a phone call to the station confirmed that they shut off the transmitter during the night, for good. They are on 106.9 FM since August. **(DP-QC)**

WDEV VT **Waterbury** – 1/30 0656 - List of closed schools because of freezing rain, in Orange County among others, ad for a VW dealership. "Good morning...96.1 WDEV-FM..." at 0700. **(DP-QC)**

560 WJLS WV **Beckley** – 2/8 1933 – WV Bobcats sports coverage. Ad for Beckley Auto Mall. Good briefly over WFIL. A rare one here. **(HJH-PA)**

WQAM FL **Miami** - 2/10 0600 - Under WGAN; promo/ID, "...Sportsradio 560 WQAM Miami, Fort Lauderdale." **(BC-NH)**

- 620 WSNR NJ Newark - 2/12 0055 - Extended peak on top w/Jewish program in EE. ToH ID, AM 6-20 WSNR". **(HF-MI)** Calls still reflect their Sporting News Radio days, but WSNR's format is now Caribbean ("One Caribbean Radio") Mike.
- WTMJ WI Milwaukee - 2/11 1748 - "The All-New 6-20 WTMJ.com"; "News Radio 6-20 WTMJ Milwaukee-- depend on it"; Time Saver traffic; ads for Medical College of WI, Fox & Hounds restaurant; Promos for Buck Shots pre-game program & "Today's TMJ-4"; Drive-time chit-chat program. Good on top. **(HF-MI)**
- WWNR WV Beckley - 2/12 0005 - Just caught a peak under WTMJ; "News-Talk 6-20 WWNR". Listed for only 25w at night; maybe they neglected to drop day power. Not logged in a long time. **(HF-MI)**
+++ - 2/10 1900 - Good; "Serving southern West Virginia for more than 60 years, News/Talk 620 WWNR Beckley," and ABC news. **(BC-NH)**
- WKHB PA Irwin - 2/10 1750 - Briefly over jumble; Sunday gospel show, mention of Ponderosa steakhouse on Route 30 in Greensburg. **(BC-NH)**
- 630 WMAL DC Washington - 2/10 1900 - Under WPRO; "...WMAL Washington ...wmal.com," and ABC news. **(BC-NH)**
- 640 CBN NL St. John's - 1/28 1633 - "...CBC news, St. John's..." at 1633 and 1635, weather at 1639, "... CBC sports..." at 1644. Under WNNZ. **(DP-QC)**
- WWJZ NJ Mount Holly - 1/28 1645 - happy birthdays to kids at 1649, Radio Disney mentions, "1-888-327-7018", ID at 1657 "WWJZ and WW ??". WNNZ's power drop at 1643 helped me bag this one. **(DP-QC)**
- 660 WXIC OH Waverly - 2/10 1759 - Under WFAN; local weather and "WXIC Waverly, Ohio," by a less than enthusiastic announcer, into ABC news. **(BC-NH)**
- 670 WWFE FL Miami - 2/10 2100 - Good, over R. Rebelde Cuba; "This is WWFE, 670 AM, Miami. Esta es La Poderosa 670 AM..." into Poderosa jingle and news in Spanish. **(BC-NH)**
- 690 WELD WV Fisher - 2/10 1900 - Good; "All the original hits, Oldies Radio AM 690, WELD Fisher." **(BC-NH)**
- 740 WQTM FL Orlando - 1/22 1900 - SS programs, "esta es WQTM Orlando" ID. **(DA-SC)**
- 850 WPTB GA Statesboro - 1/20 2245 - ESPN sports talk and ID. **(DA-SC)**
- 910 WABI ME Bangor - 1/30 0815 - OLD/NOS songs at 0815, 0821, 0824. ID at 0821. Format change? Listed as NWZ/TLK in 28th ed. log. **(DP-QC)**
- 1040 WPBS GA Conyers - 1/21 1845 - English Caribbean accented female DJ with Conyers ads. **(DA-SC)**
- 1070 WINA VA Charlottesville - 2/12 0000 - Mixed with unID Cuba national anthem during moment of CBA dead air; "Newsradio 1070 WINA Charlottesville." **(BC-NH)**
- 1160 WTWA FL Saint Cloud - 2/3 1900 - ID not heard, but "Esta es Montego Bay. Viva 1160". **(DA-SC)**
- 1170 WQVA SC Lexington - 2/1 2205 - SS programming: "radio QVA." powerful, dominant signal evenings all week by this daytimer **(DA-SC)**
- 1180 VOA FL Marathon - 1/21 2230 - SS "Radio Marti" programs. **(DA-SC)**
- 1230 WHUC NY Hudson - 2/10 1639 - "Mack The Knife" and "12-30 WHUC" ID. **(NW-ON)**
- WYTS OH Columbus - 2/9 1648 - Station promos and ID as "Talk 12-30 WYTS". **(NW-ON)**
- WCWA OH Toledo - 2/9 1606 - "You've been listening to University of Toledo Lady Rockets basketball on Fox Sports Radio WCWA". **(NW-ON)**
- WTIV PA Titusville - 2/10 1600 - top of the hour ID listing all the stations on the "Alleghany news talk sports network" and Fox Radio news. **(NW-ON)**
- 1240 WWCO CT Waterbury - 2/13 0000 - Fair; "This is the Talk of Connecticut, AM 1240 WWCO Waterbury," and AP news. **(BC-NH)**
- 1270 WMKT MI Charlevoix - 2/9 0800 - over usual WXYT and WHLD with ToH ID: "All over Charlevoix, 1270 WMKT, the talk station" into Fox news. **(MKB-ON)**
- 1280 WJST PA New Castle - 2/12 1740 - "Just Oldies 1280" slogan heard but no legal ID, so presumed, faded into mush. New station if this is them, would be my 89th PA station. **(JC-DE)**
- WYAL NC Scotland Neck - 2/12 1745 - urban gospel, ads for businesses with 252 area codes, local church announcements, 1800 sign-off with prayer and ID. Re-log, somewhat regular here. **(JC-DE)**
- 1320 WLQY FL Hollywood - 1/14 1758 - French programming then "This is WLQY Holly-

International DX Digest

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Foreign DX Catches. All times are UTC

Pan-American DX

- 540 **MEXICO** XEWA San Luis Potosí (22°10'N 100°58'W) FEB 4 0405 - Ranchera music, slogan ID, Mexican news. [Paszkievicz-WI]
- 600 **CUBA** CMKV *R.Rebelde*, Urbano Noris (20°35'N 76°08'W) FEB 11 0100 - Excellent; nostalgia, "Rebelde la habana, emisora de la revolución." [Conti-NH]
- 620 **CUBA** *R.Rebelde*, multiple locations FEB 11 0300 - Good; "La Parade de Exitos" countdown. [Conti-NH]
- 620 **NICARAGUA** YNN *R.Nicaragua*, Managua FEB 11 0100 - Mixed with *R.Rebelde* Cuba and 621 Canaries/Spain het; man and woman with promo/ID and montage of romantic ballads in the style of Roberto Carlos. [Conti-NH]
- 640 **CUBA** *R.Progreso*, multiple sites FEB 11 0400 - Excellent; theme song, "Radio Progreso, cadena nacional, la onda de la alegría..." [Conti-NH]
- 660 **MEXICO** XEEY Aguascalientes FEB 10 0400 - Ads, ID, ranchera music, slogans, mixing with another XE. [Paszkievicz-WI]
- 720 **JAMAICA** *Nationwide News Network*, Innswood, St.Catherine (18°00'N 76°47'W) FEB 11 0040 - Good; non-stop soft rock vocals, Mr. Mister "Broken Wings," Hall & Oates "One on One," Lionel Richie "Easy," parallel 700 (under WLW). 2008 WRTH lists 720 as HD digital with future plans for HD implementation on all network frequencies. [Conti-NH] FEB 11 0240 - Dominant and parallel to 700 and 550 kHz. No 770 detected. [Allen-SC]
- 730 **MEXICO** XEX *Estadio W*, Colonia el Vergel, México (19°19'N 99°05'W) FEB 11 0400 - Under CKAC; "Esta es la hora nacional." [Conti-NH]
- 750 **CUBA** CMHV *R.Progreso*, Trinidad (21°48'N 79°59'W) FEB 9 1100 - Good; "La Hora Primera" news. [Conti-NH]
- 760 **COLOMBIA** HJAJ RCN Barranquilla (10°53'N 74°49'W) FEB 11 0300 - Under WJR, and over *R.Progreso* Cuba; "RCN Noticias." [Conti-NH]
- 760 **CUBA** *R.Progreso*, unknown location FEB 11 0300 - Folk ballad parallel 640, 690, and 750 kHz. [Conti-NH]
- 760 **MEXICO** XEABC México DF FEB 10 0507 - Ballads, ID. [Paszkievicz-WI]
- 770 **CUBA** *R.Rebelde*, Las Mercedes FEB 4 0450 - Ballads, parallel with 5025 kHz. [Paszkievicz-WI]
- 780 **VENEZUELA** YVMN *R.Coro*, Coro (11°23'N 69°40'W) FEB 11 0200 - Under WBBM; series of promo/IDs, "Radio Coro, patrimonio de la comunidad," and Ruta Musical program, "... por Radio Coro, 780 AM," [Conti-NH]
- 830 **HONDURAS** HRTB *R.Colón*, Tocoa FEB 11 0301 - Poor, but "Radio Colón" and "Tocoa" heard. I have e-mailed a ham friend in Honduras to try and find out the power, which is unlisted in WRTH. [Allen-SC]
- 1000 **CUBA** *R.Granma*, Manzanillo FEB 4 0505 - News about Cuba, IDs, phone calls. [Paszkievicz-WI]
- 1030 **MEXICO** XEYC *R.Fórmula*, Cd. Juárez, Chih FEB 13 0100 - Canned ID by female voice: "Está Ud. escuchando XEYC, Radio Fórmula, con 1030 kHz de amplitud modulada, cinco mil wats de potencia..." followed by WRTH-listed address; back to *R.Fórmula* network after this ID. Good signal, mixing with Ktwo and another Spanish-language station. [Wilkins-CO]
- 1070 **CUBA** unID FEB 12 0500 - Mixed with WINA during moment of CBA dead air; opening fanfare of Cuba national anthem. *Cadena CMKS* or *R.Guamá*. [Conti-NH]
- 1080 **CUBA** *R.Cadena Habana*, Güines FEB 12 0458 - Under WTIC; Cuba national anthem parallel 1100 kHz. [Conti-NH]
- 1100 **COLOMBIA** HJAT CARACOL Barranquilla FEB 11 0100 - Parallel to stronger 810, 750, and 880 kHz. [Allen-SC]
- 1100 **CUBA** CMCH *R.Cadena Habana*, La Salud (22°53'N 82°26'W) FEB 12 0458 - Under WTAM; Cuba national anthem parallel 1080 kHz. [Conti-NH]
- 1140 **CUBA** unID FEB 12 0500 - Under WRVA; Cuba choral national anthem. [Conti-NH]
- 1180 **CUBA** *R.Rebelde*, Villa María and Mayarí Arriba FEB 12 0500 - Excellent, over an unID Spanish talker; two Rebelde stations, one delayed by a half second creating loud echo. [Conti-NH]
- 1620 **US VIRGIN ISLANDS** WDHP Frederiksted, St.Croix (17°43'N 64°53'W) FEB 11 0201 - Dominant; "You are listening to WDHP United States Virgin Islands." [Allen-SC]

Doug Allen: After one whole week with no new Cubans (I spent many hours unsuccessfully trying to find the WRTH listed parallels to *R.Enciclopedia*), last week's auroral conditions on Feb 10

was like drinking too many Cuba Libres. They were everywhere! A weaker than expected *R.Rebelde* showed up on **580**, either Matua PR, listed at 10 kW, or Baracoa, 5 kW, and was parallel to the dozen other *Rebeldes*. A new *R.Rebelde* on **1120**, unknown location, was mixing with stronger *R.Habana*. On **1140** was a new *R.Musical* mixing with an equally weak *R.Bayamo* and similarly weak, once previously logged, *R.Rebelde*. New and weak *R.Guamá* on **1010**, unknown location, was parallel to 1000 and 1020. On 1260, CMBF, Arroyo Arenas, and on 1270, CMGF, Varadero, MA, were weakly parallel to the colossal signal of *R.Enciclopedia* on 530 kHz.

Transatlantic DX

- 189 **ICELAND** *Ríkisútvarpid*, Gufuskálar (64°54'N 23°55'W) FEB 10 2350-2400+ - Two men with discussion in Nordic language; lite piano music 2357-59 then announcements, but not on peak. Fair, and peaks. Not heard this well in quite a while. [Frodge-MI]
- 1566 **BENIN** TWR Parakou FEB 7 0415 - Fair with a woman and man in French conversation. FEB 8 0359 - Open carrier followed by sign on at 0400, hymn music, and into talk. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 1611 **ITALY** *R.Vaticana*, Santa Maria di Galeria (41°54'N 12°27'E) FEB 9 0618 -Talk by a man in an unID European language. Peaking to fair signal level. [Beu-TX]

Ben Dangerfield: I am sorry to have been so negligent in supporting IDXD this season but perfectly honestly there hasn't been much I could have added - you other guys are doing a terrific job in reporting TAs and LAs. I did get good results in my logging of 1566 TWR Benin when it came on the air. However that signal couldn't compare with the signals I once was hearing from Dahomey (now Benin) when it was on 1475, or for that matter, the African stations that once were in Mali and Guinea. What changed all this? Just a few seasons back I was logging 50 to 60 or more TAs almost every night during the winter season and now I am lucky to hear more than 30.

Contributors

Doug Allen K4LY, Inman SC; Kenwood TS-850, Flag antennas, 53-ft vertical, 80 meter dipole, 130-ft inverted V, 90-ft east Kaz antenna.

Mike Beu KD5DSQ, Austin TX; Drake R8B, terminated Delta Loop (17 x 28-ft) at 40°.

Bruce Conti, Nashua NH; SDR IQ, WR-CMC-30, MWDX-5, 15 x 23-m SuperLoop antennas east with remote variable termination and south 1150-Ω terminated.

Ben Dangerfield, Wallingford PA; R8A, DXP-3A phaser, 4 slopers, Kiwa loop backup.

Harold Frodge, Midland MI; Drake R8B, 215-ft center-fed random wire, 85-ft end-fed random wire, 125-ft bow-tie.

Sheryl Paszkiewicz, Manitowoc WI; 515, Grundig Sat 800, AOR Loop, Eavesdropper.

John Wilkins, Wheat Ridge CO; Drake R8, 4-ft loop.

73 and Good DX!

Musings of the Members

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

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

Wayne Heinen N0POH - 4131 S Andes Way - Aurora, CO 80013-3831

Haven't Mused in quite a while, so as the season starts heading into the mid winter portion I thought a Muse would be in order. Each year I start a new logging cycle. And as the season starts winding to a close the loggings for DDXD-W and IDXD get fewer. This year here in the Denver Metro, the IBOC capitol of the West, we've experienced a decline in "DX-able" frequencies due to the large quantity of IBOC broadcasters and the advent of nighttime operation. Using phasing, I've had some success, especially on 910, phasing some of my locals and logging new stations. My DX'ing activity has primarily taping using Total Recorder overnight then taking the files to work on a jump drive and listening to them in my office. I usually tape from :58 to :06, starting at dusk and going through to dawn. This year's log has seen a total of 24 new stations and 8 call changes here. My Colorado totals feature 1298 stations logged and an additional 361 call changes. I'm hoping to make the 1300 mark before the end of the season. I'd like to urge everyone to check out the front page and see if there might be some task that the club needs addressed that you might be able to help with; with Paul's pending retirement we need volunteers to keep the pages of *DX News* arriving in your mailboxes! 73

Indy stations dial it up a notch in radio's fight to survive

From the *Indianapolis Star*, via Blaine Thompson (quoted herein)

by David Lindquist

Market manager Chris Wheat says patience is key with new formats. Country station WFMS, with personalities Jim Denny (from left), Deb Honeycutt and Kevin Freeman, is a hit for Cumulus. Other stations are having a tougher time.

Radio One's local vice president and general manager Chuck Williams directs two Indianapolis stations - WNOU and WHHH - aimed at the same age group, but different people.

If you don't like what's happening, wait a bit and things will change. The wry adage about weather in Indiana now seems to apply to radio in Indianapolis.

During two of the last three years, format changes rocked the nation's 40th largest radio market.

Corporate owners dumped FM stations WGLD, WENS and WTPI in 2005. A more complicated upheaval followed in 2007:

Emmis Communications discarded Top 40 format "Radio Now" (WNOU) to make room at its 93.1 FM frequency for the news and talk of WIBC.

Sports station WFNI emerged at WIBC's former AM frequency -- 1070.

Radio One purchased the "Radio Now" concept and placed it at 100.9 FM. That meant WYJZ and smooth jazz programming were out.

Cumulus Media scrapped conservative talk station WWFT after less than a year on the air at 93.9 FM. A soft rock format labeled "Warm" now resides at the frequency.

Independent station WKLU-FM (101.9) shifted from classic rock to "oldies" defined as pop hits from the 1960s and '70s.

In bottom-line language, the adjustments were made in pursuit of profits. Advertisers spent \$92.5 million at Indianapolis radio stations in 2007, following \$99 million spent in 2006, according to California-based accounting firm Miller, Kaplan, Arase and Co.

That's a 7 percent drop, and Emmis executive Tom Severino predicts another drop of 4 percent in 2008.

To appeal to advertisers who may believe radio is past its prime, companies create stations that aim to deliver audiences composed of the correct ages (and often the correct gender).

"Someone is always going to be out of bread and water, and trying to figure out how to get more bread and water," says Chuck Williams, Radio One's local vice president and general manager.

What's in it for listeners?

Executives say modern radio is more than what's heard in your car or at the office.

They tout entertainment and information available at radio station Web sites, as well as concerts

they present.

Entercom Communications local vice president and market manager Phil Hoover says his company provided a full-circle experience with last year's "Whatever It Takes" promotional campaign featuring WZPL-FM (99.5) morning personality Dave Smiley.

Pledging to do various tasks in return for listener loyalty, Smiley traveled throughout the city and posted videos of his adventures on the station's Web site.

"Radio can no longer be just on the air," Hoover says. "We have to be on the air, we have to be online and we have to be (in the community)."

Format shuffling rarely happened in Indianapolis in the two decades before 2005.

But industry insiders say it's not unusual in a national context. They also say it's not a symptom of an industry in disarray.

Emmis CEO Jeff Smulyan, whose company owns 23 stations nationwide and four in its home base of Indianapolis, says listeners haven't gone anywhere.

"The most amazing thing about radio is that consumption has held remarkably well, and yet the perception of consumption has been down," Smulyan says. "You ask the average person, and they'll say, 'Radio is yesterday's news. It's a dinosaur.'"

Arbitron listener surveys reflect that 94.2 percent of Americans listened to radio in 2004, compared to 95.3 percent in 1998.

In Indianapolis, 91.7 percent of the population listened to radio between Sept. 20 and Dec. 12, 2007.

Smulyan says the radio industry needs to do a better job of stating its case of popularity to advertisers.

Conceding that MP3 players and subscription satellite radio have received a windfall of publicity as the latest things in listening, Smulyan recalls past challenges from compact discs, cassettes and 8-track tapes.

He mentions that even CB radios were once touted as a recreational listening device.

Smulyan says radio remains a valuable source for music -- even in the iPod age.

"There are 8 billion bands," he says. "Nobody has the time to go through all of them. I think our filtering mechanism is always going to make us relevant."

Indianapolis resident Rebecca Swope agrees.

"You click on something (at the iTunes online store) because you recognize it," Swope says. "If you're really trying to promote a new artist or a new song, I think the best way for that to still happen is when it's played on the radio."

At 28, Swope is part of a highly valued demo-

graphic among local radio programmers: women ages 25 to 54.

When listeners of a specific age and gender make up an audience, stations impress advertisers who want to market products and services for maximum sales results.

Culumus station WFMS-FM (95.5) has ranked No. 1 among listeners ages 12 and older for more than eight consecutive years. Cumulus local vice president and market manager Chris Wheat says the overall title is more show than dough.

"The money demographics directly relate to your financial bottom line," he says.

In the fall 2007 Arbitron report, 61 percent of WFMS listeners were female and 51 percent of WFMS listeners were between the ages of 25 and 54.

With its new "Warm" station, Cumulus wants to attract more female listeners by playing songs from acts such as Journey, REO Speedwagon and Fleetwood Mac.

Other local stations already established in the field include Emmis property WYXB-FM (105.7) as well as Entercom Communications properties WZPL and WNTR-FM (107.9).

"The women truly make a lot of the (buying) decisions," Wheat says.

Men aren't neglected on local radio's new battleground, where three sports stations vie for listeners on the AM band: WFNI at 1070, WNDE at 1260 and WXLW at 950.

Industry consultant Robert Unmacht says three sports stations in one city isn't necessarily overkill.

In Nashville, Tenn., where Unmacht's iN3 Partners company is based, there are two FM sports stations and one AM sports station.

Unmacht estimates that 10 percent of U.S. radio stations change formats each year.

If a decrease in advertising dollars is causing radio to lose "growth industry" status, Unmacht says, profit margins still exist.

"It's now just a solid cash cow," says the former owner of radio stations in the Pacific Northwest.

Nevertheless, there's been no shortage of negative financial news.

Emmis stock traded as low as \$2.02 per share in January. Its high mark during the past year was \$10.86 per share.

Clear Channel Communications -- which owns local stations WFBQ-FM (94.7), WRZX-FM (103.3) and WNDE -- froze new hires at more than 1,000 stations beginning this month and halted spending for research and promotion, according to the San Antonio Business Journal.

CBS Radio, which owns no stations in Indianapolis, announced executive layoffs at most of its 140 properties earlier this month.

Unmacht says radio is delivering a cheaper product than it once did. "We do less local, we do less news, we're less involved in the community,"

he says. "We're doing it with smaller staffs."

Indianapolis boasts its share of high-profile on-air personalities, including Bob Kevoian, Tom Griswold, Chick McGee and Kristi Lee at WFBQ, Jim Denny and J.D. Cannon at WFMS, Greg Garrison at WIBC, DJ Wreck 1 at WHHH-FM (96.3) and the Deuce at WRZX.

Blaine Thompson, editor of weekly online publication Indiana RadioWatch, says radio offers a human connection that gadgets can't match.

"An iPod can't go out and raise money when a tornado hits," Thompson says. "A CD player can't go out and throw a fundraiser for a kid who has leukemia but no insurance."

Consultant Unmacht says the future of radio will be bright if its leadership maintains focus.

"It's a simple recipe -- like making biscuits," Unmacht says. "It's entertainment, information and companionship. If you do those three things mixed together, you'll win, and it's an unbeatable force."

As the 40th largest radio market in the United States, Indianapolis and its suburbs consist of 1.35 million potential listeners.

For the fall 2007 ratings period monitored by Arbitron, 156,200 people age 12 and older listened to radio during an average 15-minute period. About 13,200 were tuned to the most popular station, WFMS-FM (95.5). Stations use Arbitron ratings to determine advertising rates.

Five corporations own 17 of the 20 highest-ranked stations in Indianapolis. The corporations are Clear Channel Communications, Cumulus Media, Emmis Communications, Entercom Communications and Radio One.

Here's a look at three of the corporations and moves they made in 2007:

Emmis Communications

Tom Severino -- vice president and general manager for Emmis stations WIBC-FM (93.1), WYXB-FM (105.7), WLHK-FM (97.1) and WFNI-AM (1070) -- maintains faith in radio.

But when he saw diminishing returns at radio's AM band, news and talk station WIBC migrated to FM.

"Over time, fewer and fewer people will use the technology," Severino says of AM, which has been around for a century and is prone to atmospheric and electrical interference.

WIBC made its FM debut in December. Severino says the station will be deemed a success if it attracts more listeners between the ages of 25 and 54.

The station has consistently ranked in the top five among local listeners 12 and older. At AM, 40 percent of WIBC's listeners were 65 and older, according to current Arbitron ratings.

Severino says WIBC's strengths are content that's difficult to duplicate, and on-air personalities such as Greg Garrison and Dave Wilson.

"The Rolling Stones are the Rolling Stones,

whether they're on WFBQ, WKLU or WJJK," Severino says.

Severino wants 2008 to be a year flooded with WIBC content that's geared for the Internet and mobile devices.

A mobile traffic initiative will provide smart phones with access to Indiana Department of Transportation cameras, Severino says.

"It's not just about the station frequency or someone buying a 30-second ad at one of our frequencies," he says. "What can we do to create integrated platforms for listeners and advertisers?"

After local radio's tumultuous 2007, Severino predicts more format changes at other companies.

"In today's world, there's no company that's into long-term development of product," he says. "It's just not the nature of the beast anymore."

Radio One

Youth is served at Radio One, which picked up Top 40 format "Radio Now" after Emmis Communications dropped it in October.

Add WNOU-FM (100.9) to existing Radio One station WHHH-FM (96.3), and the company has a lock on listeners ages 12 to 24. WHHH ranked No. 1 and WNOU was No. 2 in that category during Arbitron's fall ratings period, reaching more than 180,000 listeners per week.

Radio One's local vice president and general manager Chuck Williams says WNOU's Top 40 format and WHHH's hip-hop and R&B format won't translate into fierce in-house competition.

"It's the same age group (of listeners), but different people," Williams says.

Radio One's television property, Indy's Music Channel (WNDI Channel 65), will be used to co-promote the stations and their Web sites, Williams says. "I need you to think 'FM' and 'dot-com' -- but not even think about the difference," he says.

In the latest Arbitron quarterly ratings, WHHH flirted with being No. 1 among listeners 12 and older. The station attracted 12,800 listeners during an average 15-minute period, placing second to WFMS and its 13,200 listeners.

WFMS posted its lowest ratings numbers in five quarters, but Williams downplayed the news as a "compression" of the marketplace.

"It's not like (WHHH) all of a sudden did something better or stronger," he says.

At the same time, Cumulus Media's installation of a "Warm" format at 93.9 FM means at least five local stations are targeting female listeners between the ages of 25 and 54 as their primary audience.

"The number of people who can step away and come back to their favorite station has increased," Williams says. "The number of places they can go has increased."

Cumulus Media

If the 93.9 FM frequency is ever to find stability in Indianapolis, Chris Wheat says he's the man to help make it happen.

Wheat is the new local vice president and market manager for Cumulus, and he held a similar title at Clear Channel when that company's WRZX-FM (103.3) made its ascent as a modern rock station in the 1990s.

"Warm" is the format Cumulus is presently trying at 93.9, which has been an unlucky number for country music (dumped in 2001), '80s nostalgia (dumped in 2004), Christian music (dumped in 2006) and conservative talk (dumped in 2007).

There's nothing revolutionary about Warm's focus on harmless hits by Journey, Styx and John Mayer.

But patience, Wheat says, will keep the station afloat.

"The Warm product will be given a fair opportunity to succeed," he says.

Patience may translate into taking lumps in the quarterly Arbitron ratings.

"If you try something and you're not getting any traction after six months, it's not necessarily because it's not good," Wheat says.

The station recently unveiled its first on-air personality. Afternoon DJ David Wood also serves as local operations manager for Cumulus.

Wheat says engaging on-air personalities do more than read announcements and song titles.

"I think the challenge is to figure out the way to keep the listening audience interested in what you're doing by playing the right music and what you say in between."

Here's what's playing on Indianapolis AM radio dials:

AM stations

WSYW (810) -- Independent station plays a variety of popular Spanish-language music.

WXLW (950) -- Syndicated program hosted by ex-ESPN personality Dan Patrick anchors this sports station.

WFNI (1070) -- Emmis sports property has play-by-play rights to the Pacers, the Colts and races at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

WNDE (1260) -- Clear Channel sports property broadcasts Jim Rome's syndicated talk show at midday.

WTLC (1310) -- Amos Brown's talk show is sandwiched by a full day of gospel programming on this Radio One station.

WXNT (1430) -- Entercom station offers political talk with local host Abdul Hakim-Shabazz and syndicated personality Bill O'Reilly.

WNTS (1590) -- Spanish-language station devotes its play list to regional Mexican music.



IT'S PITTSBURGH IN 2008 !

Friday, August 29 - 31, 2008

Our 75th Anniversary - National Radio Club, founded in 1933

What better way to celebrate our 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 250 anniversary this year too!

Our host will be John Malicky, one of our most experienced convention leaders. Just look at what he's arranging for us. The Pirates baseball team will play for us on Sunday afternoon against Milwaukee - very appropriate for our 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 p.m. 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 a.m. 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 p.m., the annual group photograph at the hotel. And, of course, there will be lots of time to sit and chat about dx'ing 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 to round out the evening.

Sunday will open with the annual NRC DX Examination and then, at 11 a.m., we'll all depart for a ride to PNC Park, home field of the Pittsburgh Pirates, via the Gateway Clipper Fleet. The game that afternoon is against the Milwaukee Brewers.

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

2. Convention Registration is \$45 and that includes the pizza party, the banquet, soft drinks and munchies during the three days in the Hospitality Room and, weather permitting another event John Malicky is working out right now.

Send your registration check, payable to "National Radio Club" to:
National Radio Club, PO Box 5192, Sun City Center, FL 33571-5192

You can also register online using Pay Pal at: www.nrcdxas.org

3. Local Transportation: If you fly into Pittsburgh International Airport ("PIT"), there is a free complimentary shuttle service to the hotel. The train station in Pittsburgh is only 4 miles away from the hotel; the taxi fee is \$25.



National Radio Club

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