



Your

COMMUNITY STATION

1947-1952

LISTEN TO WCON FOR
COMPLETE NEWS COVERAGE
Monday Through Friday

6:30A.M. News-Weather

6:55A.M. News In Brief

8:00A.M. Cappy Kenny

8:15A.M. Weather Report

8:45A.M. Pauline Fredrick

8:55A.M. Dick Abels News

10:05A.M. Nat'l-State News

12:00A.M. Cappy Kenny

1:00P.M. Paul Harvey

6:00P.M. Pure Oil News

6:15P.M. Reps Reporter

6:25P.M. Sports Parade

7:05P.M. Headline Edit.

7:15P.M. Davis, Hunt, Harsco

10:00P.M. World Tomorrow

11:15P.M. Sports Report

12:00 midnite News





SEPTEMBER 6, 1947 . . . No Parkersburg opening could be complete without the music and marching of The Parkersburg High School Big Red Band.

To Celebrate

This is our way of celebrating with you the fifth wonderful year of serving the greater Parkersburg Community. Each of the five stars surrounding our microphone on the cover of this album signify the 365 days of satisfaction in striving to bring better radio to this area.

All of you folks have been kind to us. We do not believe in making needless, idle boasts concerning our accomplishments. Like you, we have made mistakes in the past five years.

However, hundreds of you have told us how much you enjoy not only the quality of our two networks, The American Broadcasting Company and the Liberty Broadcasting System, but also the extent and sincerity of our local programs.

So . . . to mark our fifth year, we happily present this album, and pledge to you that in the years to come we will strive even harder to make you proud of "YOUR COMMUNITY STATION".

The Staff of WCOM



JOSEPH M. HANDLAN, President of The Parkersburg Broadcasting Company, is known to thousands of Parkersburg High School Big Red Fans, and throughout the Mountain State, as an ace sportscaster. A "man with many hats", he is equally at home in the courtroom or at the microphone. Mr. Handlan serves The City of Parkersburg as City Attorney. Married to the former Elizabeth Layman, he is the father of three sons, a graduate of Marietta College and The University of Virginia. During World War II, it was Lt. Commander Handlan when he won The Bronze Star while on PT boats in the Southwest Pacific. Mr. Handlan is a director of The Episcopal High School of Alexandria, Virginia, and a member of the board of directors of the Maloney-Crawford Tank and Manufacturing Company of Tulsa, Oklahoma.



AUD N. ARCHER, Station Manager of WCOM, has had twenty-seven years' experience in the advertising field, both in radio and newspaper. Born in nearby Jackson County, Mr. Archer is a graduate of the 1922 class at Parkersburg High School. His early advertising experience was with local newspapers, and his radio work includes both sales and management of area radio stations. The father of four children, he is married to the former Helen Knotts.



G. R. "Dick" ABELS, Commercial Manager of WCOM, has worked in radio for twelve years. He is a graduate of Parkersburg High School and Marietta College. Mr. Abels is married to the former Elizabeth H. Wilson. He was born, and with the exception of four years in Pittsburgh radio stations, has spent his life in Parkersburg. During World War II, he served as a public relations officer in The Middle Pacific Theater.



WILLIAM E. COLLINS, Chief Engineer of WCOM, has been in radio for five years. He is a graduate of the class of 1942 at Parkersburg High School, has attended Morris Harvey College in Charleston, and Marietta College. During World War II, Mr. Collins served in the United States Navy as Chief Electronics Technician. He is the father of two sons, and is married to the former Frieda Stephens of Parkersburg.



JOHN A. SEE, Program Manager of WCOM, has been in radio for the past nine years. He is a graduate of the class of 1944 at Parkersburg High School, and attended Freed-Hardeman College at Henderson, Tennessee. He is the father of a son, and is married to Carlene Blair of Parkersburg.



MRS. MARGARET SHEDAN, Comptroller of WCOM, has worked in radio for eight years. Mrs. Shedan is a graduate of the class of 1925 of Parkersburg High School. She is married to Attorney George Shedan of Parkersburg, a former member of The West Virginia House of Delegates, and former Municipal Police Judge of Parkersburg.



H. B. "CAPPY" KENNY, News Editor of WCOM, is known to hundreds of WCOM listeners for his daily, friendly forty-five minutes each morning. He is a versatile veteran of many years' experience in both newspaper and radio. His nightly local news program illustrates his talent both for reporting and candid, terse presentation.



SAM SLATER, veteran newspaperman and radio sportscaster, is known to his legion of listeners for his nightly Sports Parade. Slater covers not only the local scene, but brings WCOM's listeners up to date on national and state events in the sports world. Mr. Slater is a brother of nationally-known radio figures, Tom Slater and Bill Slater.



JOE HANDLAN
Big Red Football and
Basketball.

WCOM Sport



DR. JIM WADE
The Big Red Football
Clinic.

J. FRED EARLEY

Former Notre Dame Star--
The Fred Earley Show.



s Personalities

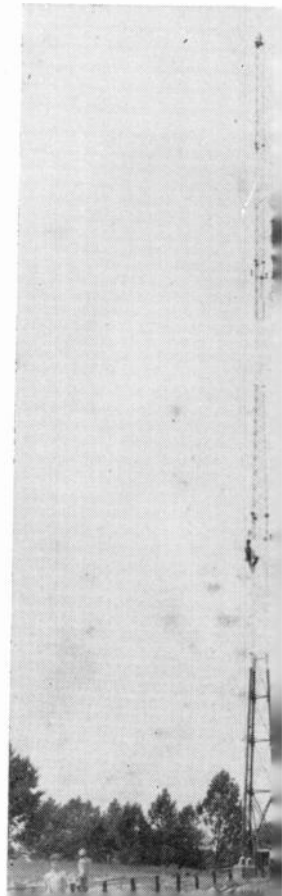
- DR. JIM WADE interviews PHIS Coaches Sam Mandich, Jim Scott and Pop Lanning.



WCOM was designed for better service to the listener. On these pages is the story of how in 1947 only the finest equipment was used in putting the station on the air, and how in the past five years that original equipment has been improved and added to

- At right is WCOM's Truscon, self-supporting tower. Constructed in 1947, 140 copper radials were buried around the structure to assure maximum reception in the broadcast radius.

- Below is interior of WCOM Studio Control. Western Electric equipment was used for entire operation. Transcription quality is assured by fine Fairchild Turntables.

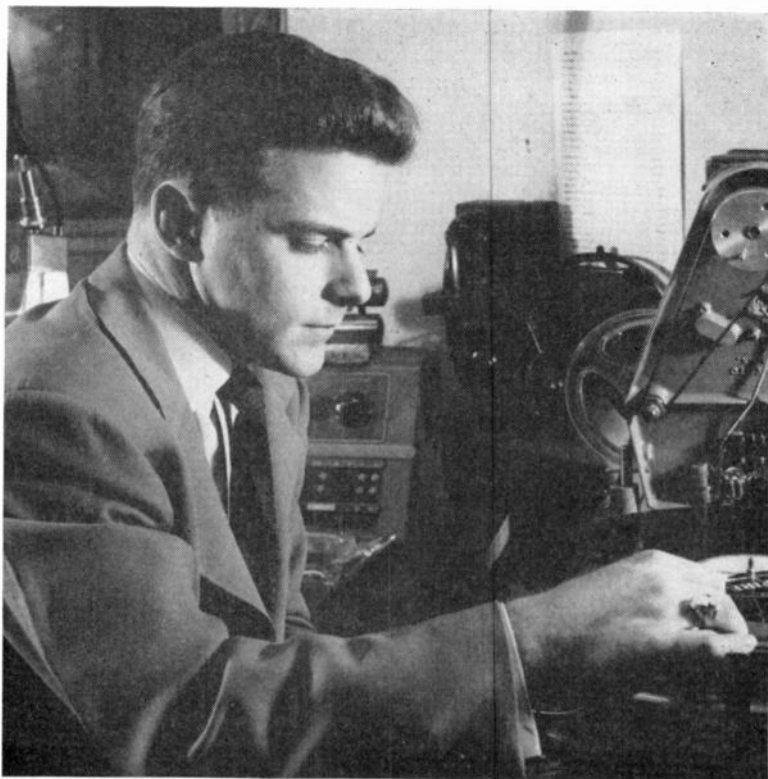




- Mr. B. P. BARICKMAN served as Chief Engineer during the construction of WCOM, and until he was recalled to The Air Force. He is now Captain B. P. Barickman and is serving as a navigator on B-29's. Captain Barickman is married to the former Blanche Gilchrist, and is the father of a son, "Jimmy".



JOHN H. SIMPSON, Staff Announcer for WCOM, is a graduate of the class of 1932 of Parkersburg High School. Mr. Simpson has been with WCOM since the opening of the station in 1947. Born in Parkersburg, Mr. Simpson is married to the former Gladys Cornell. He is the father of one son, John C. Simpson. During World War II, Mr. Simpson served in the Mediterranean Theater of Operations.



TOM NEALE, Staff Announcer for WCOM, is a graduate of the class of 1944 at Parkersburg High School, and attended Ohio University at Athens, Ohio. Married to the former Betty Ludwig, he is the father of one son, Steve. Tommy Neale is heard as color announcer on broadcasts of The PHS Big Red Football games. He is a nephew of the nationally-famous professional football coach, Earle "Greasy" Neale.



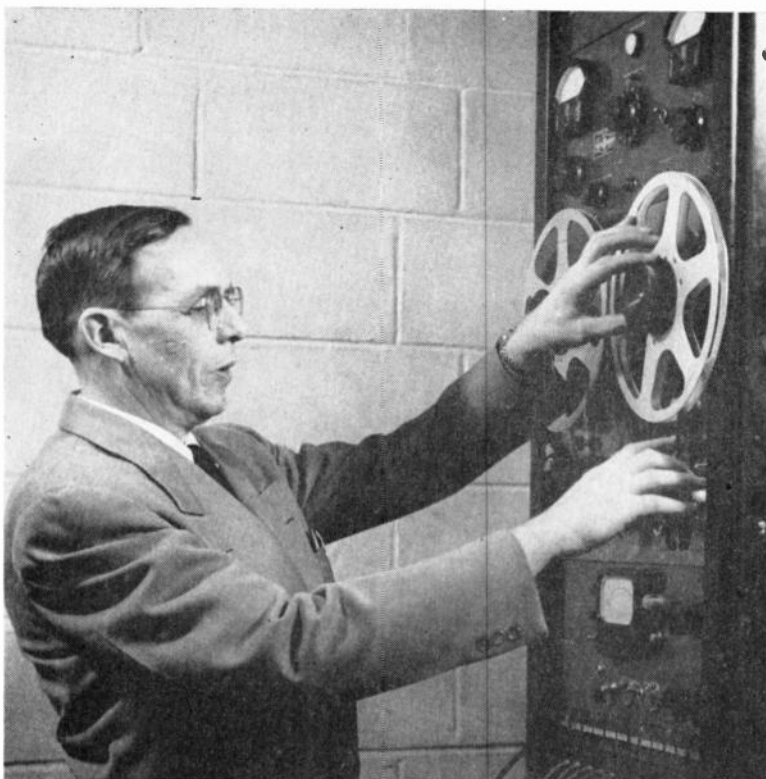
SAM GOODMAN, a new addition to WCOM's announcing staff, is a native of Yonkers, New York. He brings to his nighttime programs a wealth of theatrical and stage experience. Mr. Goodman is unmarried.



MRS. MERCEDES KESTERSON, Continuity Chief and Receptionist at WCOM, is a native of Linton, North Dakota. She is a graduate of Linton High School and the University of North Dakota, where she earned a degree in journalism. She is married to Donald N. Kesterson of Parkersburg.



Miss BETTY DENNIS, of the Traffic Department of WCOM, is a graduate of the class of 1950 of Parkersburg High School, where she studied commercial subjects. Born in Parkersburg, Miss Dennis is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George M. Dennis.

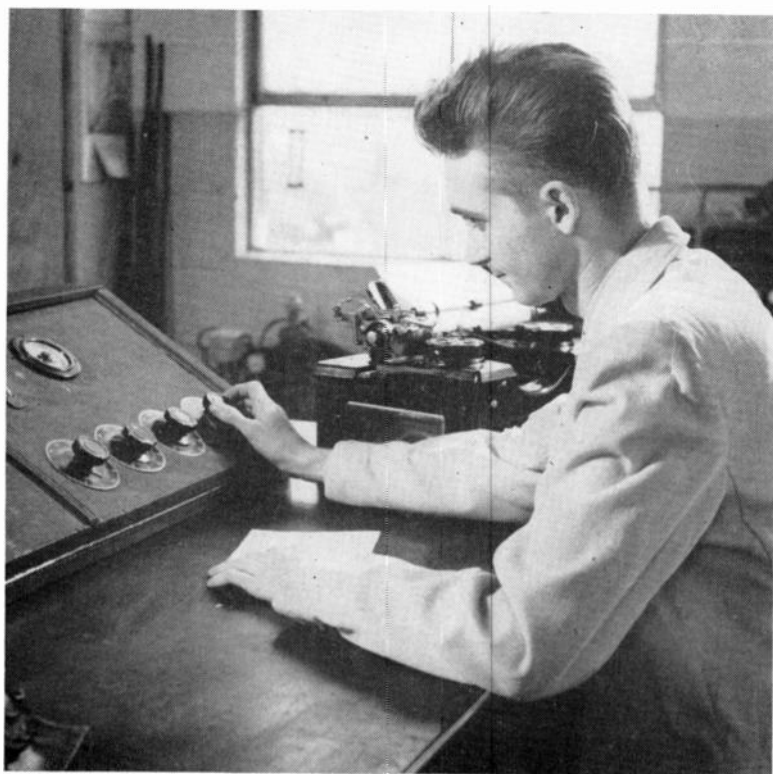


CECIL R. KNOWLES, Engineer-Technician for WCOM, is a native of nearby Belpre, Ohio. He is the father of three children, two sons, Robert and William; and a daughter, Joyce. Mr. Knowles is a graduate of Belpre High School, and is married to the former Hazel Ryan of the Ohio town.

- You'll be interested to know that in the above picture, Mr. Knowles is preparing to tape record a program on WCOM's new Ampex tape recorder. This machine is generally used only by networks, but was purchased by WCOM in order to bring higher fidelity to local and network recorded programs.



MR. J. G. CAPLINGER, Engineer-Technician with WCOM, has been with the station for four years. He is the father of three children, Weldon, Wayne and Mrs. Wilda Howes. He is married to the former Bonnie Dodrill of Webster Springs, West Virginia.



JOE DUNBAR, Engineer-Technician with WCOM, is a graduate of the class of 1944 at Parkersburg High School. Mr. Dunbar is a native of Pennsboro, West Virginia. He is unmarried and makes his home with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Dunbar.



For eighteen hours each day, 365 days of each year, WCOM's staff is busy in the transmitter building on New York Avenue, and at our studios on Ninth Street. We hope that these pictures, designed to tell something of our operation, will make you more at home when you dial 1230 to listen to "Your Community Station".

“Thanks for Listening”

—Photos by PAUL JACK

THIS ALBUM
has been presented to you
through the courtesy
of
RADIO STATION WCOM
and the compliments
of:

MARIETTA PAINT & COLOR CO.
210 THIRD ST.
2-1081

CLARK HAMMOND
714 26th STREET
PARKERSBURG, WEST VA.

