

Closed Circuit

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THE WGN FAMILY LETTER

July 14, 1978

HENRY W. SURMA APPOINTED ASSISTANT MANAGER, RADIO TRAFFIC SYSTEMS

HENRY (Hank) W. SURMA was appointed Assistant Manager, Radio Traffic Systems, by DAVID S. OLZESKI, departmental manager.

Hank, a member of the WGN "family" for five years, has been with the automated radio traffic department since its inception in 1976.

Hank's career path at WGN took him through the radio continuity department and he is knowledgeable in all procedures within the traffic department.

He and his wife, Debbie, reside in Oak Lawn.

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"EVENING IN BYZANTIUM" COMPLETES FILMING

WGN-TV TO AIR IN AUGUST

MCA TV/Universal's Operation Prime Time presentation of Irwin Shaw's "EVENING IN BYZANTIUM" completed filming last week and will be telecast on WGN Television on August 14 and 15, from 8 - 10 p.m. each evening. The four-hour, two-part production stars Glenn Ford, Eddie Albert, Vince Edwards, Shirley Jones, Erin Gray, Patrick MacNee, Gregory Sierra, Harry Guardino, Michael Cole, Simon Oakland, Gloria De Haven, Marcel Hillaire, Christian Marquand, Lee Bergere, Len Birman, James Booth and George Lazenby.

Jerry London directed the teleplay by Executive Producer Glen A. Larson and Supervising Producer Michael Sloan. Robert F. O'Neill is the Producer.

Filmed in Santa Barbara and Greater Los Angeles and Cannes, "EVENING IN BYZANTIUM" now goes into post-production to meet August air dates on 91 Operation Prime Time Stations.

It follows on the heels of the May OPT feature, "THE BASTARD," that garnered impressive first-place ratings for independent television stations in New York, Los Angeles and for WGN-TV in Chicago.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Lou Boudreau -- July 17
Orlando White -- July 17
Glenn Holmes -- July 18
Don Willing -- July 18
Dick Bartos -- July 18
Don Fuller -- July 18
Barbara Luce -- July 18
Robert Faust -- July 18
Del Roberts -- July 20
Thaine Lyman -- July 22
Bob Kastigar -- July 22

Thomas Braid -- July 22
Ray Rayner -- July 23
Jerry Swanson -- July 23
Judy Lukowski -- July 23
Norm Priban -- July 25
Ed Archambault -- July 25
Joe Gatwood -- July 25
Angela Meo -- July 28
John Folkers -- July 29
Ed Kearns -- July 30
Verne Brown -- July 30

PROUD PARENT

CHRIS FRENCH, son of JAMES C. FRENCH (WGN Engineer), took 11th place in the national finals competition of the National Forensic League in Evanston. He competed in Humorous Interpretation.

Two years ago he took first place in state competition in the Humorous Duet classification. Chris was the winner of the WGN July 4th Essay Contest in 1976.

OUR CONGRATULATIONS to JACK TAYLOR, who has been honored by Iowa Wesleyan College, Mount Pleasant, Iowa. Unsolicited, the school is establishing a mass communications scholarship in Jack's name.

Send GET WELL WISHES to GINNY ADRIG, DON BRENNECKE, DICK JUNGERS and ANN KORBILAS at home. Also, DICK ERLNBACH at Swedish Covenant Hospital.

VIVIAN PAPPAS would like to thank all employees who so generously volunteered and gave blood to our Red Cross Blood Assurance Program. Because of everyone's willingness to give their fair share, WGN employees will continue to be in this program for the coming year.

RECIPE CORNER

Marshmallow Fruit Salad

2 cups sour cream
pinch of salt
2 cups miniature marshmallows
1 large can pineapple chunks (drained)
2 -11 oz. cans mandarin oranges (drained)
2 bananas (sliced)
1-1/2 cup seedless grapes
2 cups fresh fruit (strawberries)

Night before: combine sour cream, marshmallows and salt. Refrigerate.
Morning -- combine canned fruit with above.

RAY RAYNER says: "A Sewing Circle is a place where women go to needle each other."



WGN PHOTO CONTEST
ENTER THOSE PRIZE WINNING PHOTOS NOW

1. Open to all employees!
2. Prizes for the best!
3. Contest each month!
4. No fee for entries, maximum of four (4) photos per entrant.

Submit photos with form attached to an outer envelope. Place in Housemail to:

"WGN PHOTO CONTEST"
WGN MAIL ROOM

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WGN PHOTO CONTEST, July/August 1978 Entry

Submitted by: _____

Department: _____ Number of photos: _____

- RULES:**
1. Place description on back of photos with your name and department number.
 2. All photos must be made by person submitting same.
 3. All entries must be submitted by the closing of the last work day of the month

NOTE: In all fairness to each and every entrant, the judges and the Camera Club have made the ruling that only one print per person will be awarded a prize each month. You may enter four (4) prints each month, but you can only receive one award per month. The best prints will be on display in the Camera Club case opposite TV Studio One in the first floor hallway.

On the Air

by Hanke Joyce

Top 10 Monday-Friday AM Radio announcers on my survey from January-June include:

1) WGN Wally Phillips; 2) WLS Larry Lujack; 3) WIND Clark Weber; 4) WLS Bob Sirott; 5) WGN Bill Berg; 6) WLS John Landecker; 7) WIND Ed Schwartz; 8) WGN Jay Andres & Ron Holland; 9) WLS Jeff Davis; 10) WMAQ Nancy Turner.

Top 10 Monday-Friday FM Radio announcers on my survey from January-June are: 1) WDAI Tom Graye; 2) WMET Greg Brown; 3) WLOO Mike Louis; 4) WBBM-FM Lee DeYoung; 5) WDAI Danae Alexander; 6) WMET Val Stouffer; 7) WFYR Fred Winston; 8) WYEN Rob Reynolds; 9) WCLR Bob Longbons; 10) WFYR Robert Kraft.

Top 10 Weekend announcers are as follows: 1) WDAI Mikkie Stewart; 2) WGN Cliff Mercier & WLOO Bill Barkley; 3) WFYR John Sheridan; 4) WCLR Jack Miller; 5) WYEN Jan Nelson; 6) WLS Brad Miller; 7) WGN Virginia Gale; 8) WLS Bill Price; 9) WFYR Dean Richard; 10) WMET Dave Morgan.

Top five program directors are: 1) WMET Gary Price and WLAK Jack Lee; 2) WFYR Don Kelly; 3) WYEN Wayne Allen; 4) WIND AL Mitchell; 5) WBBM-FM Dick Bartely and WCLR Jack Kelly.

Top five promotion and public relations directors are 1) WFYR Kim Kelly; 2) WFMT Nancy Joyce; 3) WBBM 78 Dave Milberg and Sue Stranger; 4) WMET

Marika Kovalevych; 5) WGN radio and TV staff.

Top 10 newscasters are 1) WMET Carol Franklin and WGN Steve Hunter; 2) WFYR Chris Kridel; 3) WBBM Dale McCarren and Frank Beaman; 4) WDAI Jeff Finch; 5) WBBM-FM Kevin Boyle; 6) WCLR Gil Peters; 7) WFYR Ron Davis; 8) WCLR John Ganas; 9) WMET Randy Thomas; 10) WIND Dick Elliott.

Top five news directors are 1) WFYR Lyle Dean and WLS Bud Miller; 2) WIND Dick Stone; 3) WWMM Jim Dexter; 4) Rich Rieman; 5) WBBM 78 John Hultman.

Top five music directors are WIND Ford Colley (now with WDAI); 2) WMET Dave Morgan; 3) WBBM-FM Lee DeYoung; 4) WFYR Dave Martin; 5) WYEN Rob Reynolds.

Bruce Roberts sports commentaries are three times daily on WBBM-FM...Mike Neff, production director at WIND, is leaving the station soon...Jeffy Clifton is no longer with WEFM...WLUP radio has been sold for \$5 million.

GO NAVY

Young Boudreau has pro ambitions

"Jimmy's really showing us today what a fine, young pitcher he is, isn't he Vince?"

The query is from WGN baseball announcer Lou Boudreau to his cohort Vince Lloyd. Boudreau hasn't asked the question — yet. He hopes he will one day, if his son Jim makes it to the big leagues.

"I'd like that. It would be pretty interesting," Jim Boudreau replies when asked if he'd like to pitch for the Chicago Cubs under the scrutiny of his Hall of Fame father.

Based on Jim's success this year as a southpaw hurler for Thornridge High School in Dolton, he may don a major-league uniform someday.

Jim finished his senior year with a 6-0 record and a 1.11 earned-run average for 45 innings. His strikeout-to-walk ratio was 3-1. He compiled his impressive statistics during his rookie season as a pitcher. This summer he's playing for the Kiwanis Braves of the Dolton Senior Babe Ruth League.

"I kept him off the mound for two years," says the elder Boudreau, a WGN announcer since 1957. "It was early in his career — too early, I thought. We didn't want him hurting his arm. We wanted him to mature some."

Jim says having a famous father doesn't bother him.

"I don't mention it much," he says. "If it comes up, we (he and his teammates) talk about it."

"My dad doesn't push me at all," he adds. "We're close and we talk things out. He tells me what's best for me. He'll ask me if there's anything I want to know. He's been around so I know he's going to give me good advice."

The younger Boudreau showed he has listened and learned well when a coach from the University of Arizona came to scout him during the high-school season. He struck out 14 batters that day.

A .357 hitter who has received tips from Lou Fonseca, the Cubs' batting instructor, Jim will hone his skills at college. He will play at Scottsdale (Ariz.) Community College in the fall.

Then on to the big leagues, he hopes.

"That's his first major-league victory," Vince Lloyd says. "He really displayed his stuff today, didn't he Lou?"

"That's my boy, Vince," Lou beams.

MORTON GROVE CHAMPION THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 1978



Daytime television personality Phil Donahue presides over his talk show in a Chicago studio. "There's a lot of talent out there," Donahue says of

his largely female audience. "All we're doing is plugging into it. The soaps and the games do not."

Welcome to Phil Donahue's show

By JOHN BARBOUR

CHICAGO (AP) — The scenario goes this way: Husband leaves for work. Wife putters with clean-up. Then, in many cities, she adjourns to the television set.

Enter Phil Donahue, 42, handsome, 6 feet, 175 pounds, born on the cusp of Sagittarius, the Archer, a divorced Roman Catholic, father of four sons and a daughter, bright, blue-eyed, sincere, quick on his feet, and a man with an abiding faith that the American woman is the most underrated, belittled creature on earth.

As a fixture on some 146 TV stations, Donahue brings to daytime television an interesting alternative, a talk show that features the audience and braves issues such as incest, abortion, religion, politics, sex, all of the things people were told not to bring up in public.

His target is women — interesting, intelligent women.

"There is an enormous amount of energy and insight and talent and curiosity (out there)," says Donahue. "All we're doing is plugging into it. The soaps and the games do not."

"We're just saying we're different and there should be more on the boob tube in the daytime ... We have men making the decision about what is to be on daytime TV and these men have decided that the only thing that works is soaps and games. I think our show proves them wrong."

Certainly the show's success proves

something. It's now Nielsen's top syndicated talk show — over Dinah, Mike Douglas, Merv Griffin. There is an 18-month waiting list to get into the intimate studio that holds an audience of about 200. When it's over, Donahue goes to the door, like a minister after the sermon, and shakes every guest's hand, signs autographs, stands still for pictures.

The effect is clear. Donahue seems to be the best of all possible males in a woman's eyes. He is an eligible bachelor who is frequently seen with actress Marlo Thomas ("I feel happy when she's around.") He is a father reborn to his four sons who live with him and his daughter who visits summers and Christmas. He is sensitive and courteous, funny and deep. But does that explain it all? Or is the suburban woman struggling in a stagnant pool called life and is he the rescue?

"I don't know if I'm smart enough to know that ... I can only share some of the feelings I get."

"I think in far too many homes there are people sleepwalking through a relationship. There are people who are not communicating with each other and not sharing feelings. There are women married to men who haven't kissed them in 20 years and would shoot any man who did..."

I think there is a sudden awareness that the feminists were right when they said that kids in this culture get too much mother and not enough father,"

he says.

For all of his understanding of this fissure in American life, Donahue was the victim of it. He married after graduation from Notre Dame, and at the same time launched his career in journalistic television. He became a workhorse, and his marriage deteriorated. She has remarried and has custody of their daughter. He has not and has custody of his sons.

"It's a shame that divorce has to be the vehicle of consciousness raising for us men. But certainly since my divorce a lot of things have happened to me."

In the studio, Donahue is a study in concentration. When he walks through the audience, his blue eyes do not wash over the sea of faces. They focus on one woman, then another.

His hearing is acute. He picks up the asides of the audience, and he picks out people who have something to ask, something to say. The show is honestly live.

It also depends on the audience. During breaks for commercials, and in the brief warmup, he reminds them, "The more you get in the act, the better the show will be."

He has techniques to set them at ease, to open them up: "Is anybody here pregnant? Does anybody want to be pregnant?"

Gore Vidal has written a new novel, and is the guest on this particular show. But the conversation will deal only briefly with the book. Vidal's views of

religion and women writers become the focus. The audience laughs, groans, applauds, Donahue probes, provokes.

"I'm not a militant atheist," Vidal says. "But I'm very interested in religion, which many others can't say." "Eternity is a circle," he tells the inquiring Donahue.

"Who takes care of the circle?" Donahue asks.

"The circle," Vidal answers with a smile.

"Now isn't it somewhat intellectually lazy to say that?" Donahue retorts. "God must be very disappointed in us."

Applause. The overwhelmingly female audience has been brought not only to a discussion of God, but to a male ego exchange.

What is Phil Donahue? "He's cute and he understands," one fan says.

"I find women to be a more interesting audience than men," Donahue says. "Men have a tendency to give a speech whereas women will ask a question. Women engage in dialogue."

Example: The women gather in the family room, the men in the kitchen. If one of the women says she was hit by a car, the other women will say "Harriet, really, what happened? Are you all right?" Same situation, men in the kitchen, and one says "I was hit by a car."

"I promise you," Donahue says, "there will be another man in the group who will say 'Wait until I tell you what happened to me'."

The Lerner TV & Radio Report

Here is the happiest man in radioland—and why

BY JERRY FIELD

THE SECOND WEEK in June brings the May rating book for Chicagoland's more than 35 radio stations. It's a time when the stations, by means of an independent sophisticated survey, determine which station has the most listeners. The station with the most listeners can usually sell the most commercials at the best rates. The ratings also indicate what the listeners want to hear.

The happiest man in Chicago is **Bob Henley**, vice president and general manager of WGN radio. Henley's station obtained the highest rating of all the AM and FM stations, a 13.5. Following in order are WLOO, with a 7.6; WLS radio with a 7.2; WBBM radio, 6.3; and WLAK-FM with a 5.1.

From this point on, the rating systems can be confusing, as the next step is the share of the market and the demographics.

The demographics refer to the types of persons tuned in to a station. If you were selling pop records, you would want a demographic which indicates that teens and pre-teens were your audience. If you were selling expensive cars or boats, you would prefer adults, 35 years and older. Coming up in a few weeks, will be a brief, but detailed, explanation of the rating systems.

The WGN strength rests with its morning pillar of listenership, Wally Phillips. The station carries excellent ratings with the rest of its talent, too. Two good music stations, W100 and WLAK, are in second and fifth in the top five. In third place is WLS radio, which appeals to a younger audience. In fourth place is Newsradio WBBM, which is a 24-hour news and feature news station.

The rest of the top 10 stations in Chicago are WVON and WMAQ with their all-country music format. WMAQ has the honor of being the most

listened to country music station in the United States. In eighth place is WMBX followed by WCLR and in 10th place and coming up strong is WIND (56 AM).

PROGRAM NOTES OF INTEREST: Newscenter 5's education reporter, Andy Shaw, will be the host of the hour-long public affair programs, "Access to Excellence," to be seen Friday, June 30, from 7 to 8 p.m. The program originally scheduled for a half hour has been expanded to a full hour to allow time for a historical look at desegregation, and offer Schools Supt. Joseph Hannon, an opportunity to answer questions from Shaw and from the home television audience. This is another expanded public service effort by WMAQ-TV to allow the home audience to ask questions of a program guest. The phone number for questions will be available at air time.

If you have been following the "The Prisoner" on WTTW, the 17th and final series will be aired Saturday, July 1, at 7:50 p.m. Actually, chapter 16 will be seen at 7 p.m. on the same evening for a two-hour presentation.

Monday, July 3, WGN-TV will air "The King and I," starring Yul Brynner and Deborah Kerr. The Broadway musical will be presented with one commercial break, thanks to IBM. If you can appreciate seeing a motion picture of this quality with just one commercial break, write to IBM, Attention: TV department, Armonk, New York, 10504.

CHARLOTTE CHANDLER, author of the funny book, "Hello, I Must Be Going," about the late Groucho Marx, can relate several funny stories about the comedian and his association with Chicago. The Marx family is reported to have lived here for some time and owned a nearby farm. Ms. Chandler, a close friend of Groucho, will be the guest on the Roy Leonard show Thursday, June 29, 11:30 a.m. to noon.

MILT ROSENBERG will spend two hours discussing "Coordinating The Federal Bureaucracy," on Thursday night, June 29, from 9 to 11 p.m.