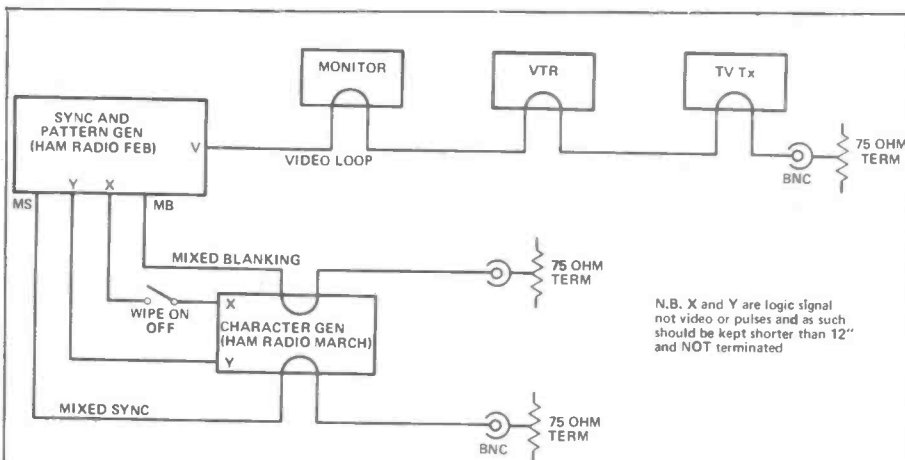


A Simple Amateur Television Station

Part 2

This month an electronic caption generator, capable of displaying 16 letters or numbers

By Trevor Brown G8CJS



In the February issue I showed you how to generate the electronic test waveforms necessary for adjusting an amateur television link. It also provided mixed sync and mixed blanking. This month I would like to show you how to positively identify that test signal by electronically superimposing your callsign QRA or QTH across it.

If you think electronic identification unnecessary when a TV camera and black board would suffice, I would like to point out the following.

The articles in this series have deliberately been kept simple to encourage the beginner, who might not as yet own a TV camera. These articles have also been designed for simple power requirements, ie positive supply lines of not more than 12 volts. This should enable the equipment to work in a portable location. Portable working often means contest work. (Yes even Amateur TV enthusiasts have contests). In a contest, a 4 digit number is exchanged in vision only and contests run 24 hours so night working takes place. Need I say that TV cameras don't work too well in the dark, at least not the standard home video kind.

The electronic character generator requires to be fed with the mixed blanking and mixed sync. This is standard practice in television in order to keep all the circuits in synchronisation: they must generate same line number at the same time. This reduces disturbance.

