



# DX NEWS

The magazine of the  
National Radio Club

— SINCE 1933 —

Volume 58, No. 14- January 14, 1991 (ISSN 0737-1659)

## Inside ...

- |                  |                    |                     |
|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 2 .. AM Switch   | 9 .. Verie Signers | 19 .. WKBN          |
| In the Beginning | 10 .. IDX          | 20 .. Bandscans     |
| 4 .. DDXD-E      | 11 .. Formats      | 21 .. Musings       |
| 7 .. DDXD-W      | 12 .. Tango Radio  | 22 .. New FM Log!   |
|                  | 13 .. CKLW Profile | 23 .. How to charge |

## CPC Calendar ...

Date	Station	From/To (EST)
Jan. 14	KFEL-970	2:00/2:30 AM
Feb. 3	KSOK-1280	5:00/6:00 AM
Feb. 4	KBYR-700	4:00/4:30 AM
Feb. 11	KOTZ-720	4:01/5:00 AM
Feb. 25	KUAI-720	5:30/AM
Mar. 23	KTGG-1540	4:30/5:00 AM

**KFEL-970**, 4411 Goodnight Ave. Pueblo, CO 81005 will conduct a Special DX TEST on Monday morning, January 14, 1991 between 0200 and 0230 EST. This test will include Morse code ID's. Our thanks to Mr. Mike Landry, Operations Manager, for this test. Arranged by the Colorado CPC Machine for the National Radio Club.

**KSOK-1280**, P.O. BOX 917, Arkansas City, KS 67005 will conduct a Special DX TEST on Sunday morning, February 3, 1991 between 0500 and 0600 EST. This test will include Morse code ID's. Our thanks to Mr. David C. Foster (NOKAT), Chief Engineer, for this test. Arranged by the Colorado CPC Machine for the National Radio Club.

**KBYR-700**, P.O. BOX 102200, Anchorage, AK 99510 will conduct a Special DX TEST on Monday morning, February 4, 1991 from 0400-0430 EST. This test will include Morse code ID's. Our thanks to Mr. A. G. Hiebert, Chairman/CEO, for this test. Arranged by the Colorado CPC Machine for the National Radio Club.

**KOTZ-720**, P.O. BOX 78, Kotzebue, AK 99752 will conduct a Special DX TEST on Monday morning, February 11, 1991 from 0401-0500 EST. This test will consist of tones, Native American and Modern music. Our thanks to Mr. Pierre A. Lonewolf, Chief Engineer, for this test. Arranged by the Colorado CPC Machine for the National Radio Club.

**KUAI-720**, P.O. BOX 720, Eleele, Kauai, HI 96705 will conduct a Special DX TEST on Monday

morning, February 25, 1991 from 0530-0600 EST. This test will include Morse code ID's. Our thanks to Mr. Roger D. Rogelstad, Chief Operator, for this test. Arranged by the Colorado CPC Machine for the National Radio Club.

**KTGG-1540**, Spring Arbor College, Spring Arbor, MI 49283 will conduct a Special DX TEST on Saturday morning, March 23, 1991 from 0430-0500 EST. Details to follow. Our thanks to Mr. Edmond R. Trombley, Chief Engineer, for this test. Arranged by the Colorado CPC Machine for the National Radio Club.

**From the editor ...** Rob Cramer called me with the news that WPNT-820 suddenly went silent, possibly for a long time, and that he expects a shuffle on the Chicagoland AM dial similar to what happened in New York last year when WNBC-660 expired, as various stations may try to buy the frequency.

For those mailing contributions to Topeka, you should know that mail delivery to my house is now between 4:30-5 pm; furthermore, as of January 5, my school has installed a new alarm system, meaning that I cannot get into the building between 4 pm Saturday and 6:15 am Monday to use the LaserWriter. Therefore, if your contributions arriving Saturday must go in, I have to print off this front page, etc., at the crack of dawn Monday, and then drive them to the printer as I usually do about 7 am. In other words, I would appreciate receiving your items no later than Friday from now on, if at all possible. 73.

## DX Time Machine

### From the Pages of DX News

25 years ago ... from the Jan. 15, 1966 *DXN*: Ben Dangerfield, Chester, PA, reported KTOK-1000 dominant on 12-6 with other midwesterners.

10 years ago ... from the Jan. 19, 1981 *DXN*: Mark Connelly, W. Yarmouth, MA, reported YVNM-1000, Moron, Venezuela on 12-27, while Rich Toebe, San Ramon, CA reported HJHF in Colombia 12-15.

# 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 NRC members

## CALL LETTER CHANGES

Old Call:		New call:
790 WPFA	FL Pensacola	WSWL
900 WSEA	DE Georgetown	WSSR
980 WAYL	MN Richfield	KMZZ
1060 WCFB	MS Tupelo	WPMX
1070 KKZR	TX Houston	KRBE
1080 WPOG	SC Walterboro	WRIT
1120 WJOK	AL Hobson City	WHOG
1270 WFHM	NJ Vineland	WMIZ
1430 WIL	MO St. Louis	WRTH
1450 WNCG	MA Newburyport	WNBP
1480 WMQM	TN Memphis	WBBP
1570 WOKG	OH Warren	WANR*
1580 WKNN	MS Pascagoula	WZZJ
1600 WTKZ	MD Rockville	WINX*



WNTR Newstalk 1050  
8121 Georgia Ave., Suite 701  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

\*Notes: WOKG-1570 previously requested call of WAZP was never used on the air. WTKZ-1600 appears to have been set aside for a second time and the station remains, again, WINX.

## APPLICATIONS FOR NEW STATIONS

None

## GRANTS FOR NEW STATIONS

1100 CA Bakersfield: 10000/1000 U4  
1120 CA San Martin: 10000/1000 U4  
1340 PA Altoona: 250/250 U1 (synchronous XR of WTRN Tyrone, PA)

## APPLICATIONS FROM EXISTING FACILITIES

None

## GRANTS TO EXISTING FACILITIES

640 WCRV TN Collierville: powers to 50000/480 watts  
1000 WMIUF TN Paris: changes in antenna system  
1130 WEDE NC Eden: day power to 5000 watts, add 250 watts nights, antenna to U1  
1500 WMJL KY Marion: reduce power to 175 watts  
1570 KQWC IA Webster City: reduce power to 147 watts

## OTHERNESS

640 WBMX MI Zeeland: as the story unfolds, WWJQ-1260 in Zeeland bought out WZND-FM in 1987 and moved the studios to their present site. The old WZND studios at the FM XR site were rented to WBMX who were feeding the 380 foot FM tower as an AM antenna with NO ground system. A lightning strike caused their first long silent period. Shortly after returning to the air they were informed by the landlord they had two days to get all their equipment out. Their lease expired 11-30-90. The

station is now SILENT and it would appear that it will probably remain so for some time to come.

650 KMCE CA Rancho Cordova: target date is March 1991  
730 KKDA TX Grand Prairie: 500 U2 night power is ON THE AIR  
980 KHOS TX Sonora: silent station is back ON THE AIR  
1100 \*App CA Nipomo: application for new station has been DISMISSED in the same action granting new CP for Bakersfield, CA station (see New Grants above)  
1110 WKEG PA Washington: silent station is back ON THE AIR  
1120 \*App CA Nipomo/Oceano: applications for these new stations have been dismissed in the same action granting new CP for San Martin, CA (see above)  
1170 WKFL FL Bushnell: silent station is back ON THE AIR  
1200 \*App VA Powhatan: application for new station DISMISSED  
1310 WGSA PA Ephrata: station is now relaying programming from WAGO-1240 Reading, PA  
1360 WWHY TN Milan: station is SILENT  
1490 WFAD VT Middlebury: station is SILENT, posting a sign on their front door saying "We have currently suspended broadcast operations." Owners blame a bleak state economy.  
1530 KXTD OK Wagoner: station is now relaying programming from WWLS-640 Moore, OK and is unattended, mail should be forwarded to WWLS.  
1560 WSMD MD LaPlata: silent station is back ON THE AIR  
1590 WETT MD Ocean City: silent station is back ON THE AIR  
WABV SC Abbeville: silent station is back ON THE AIR

THANKS to the following contributors: BILL HALE, BOB CURTIS, PHIL BOERSMA, DAVE SCHMIDT and M STREET JOURNAL.

AM SWITCH was missing last issue due to holiday mail delays. By our deadline we had not received any of our regular info sources. There will not be any AMS in the next DX News unless something earth-shattering occurs. This skip will reflect the FCC's inactive period between Christmas and the New Year.

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

## 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
850, clear----	WWL	New Orleans, La.----- T—Near Kenner.	10 kw----	S.H.
	KWKH	Shreveport, La.----- T—Kennonwood.	10 kw----	S.H.
	KIEV	Glendale, Calif.-----	100 w.----	D.



# Domestic DX Digest - East

**William Hale**  
734 Burlison  
San Marcos, TX 78666

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

## MEDIUM WAVE AM BROADCASTS

- A slim turnout for a 'middle of winter' issue! Let's get those receivers cranked up and sweep in all that good DX.
- I have received three inquiries about through which edition of AM Switch the new 1991 NRC AM RADIO LOG is current. Word from on high (Mikee) is that the new Log is good through Issue 29.

## SPECIAL

- 1080 **WRYT IL EDWARDSVILLE** - per a former business associate, station's BBD/TLK programming is presently being simulcast on WXJO-FM 95.5 Bethalto, IL, the station's sister FM station; still looking for a new site for the AM's 337-watt night CP (EB-GA)
- 1580 **WPGC MD MORNINGSIDE** - 12/14 1640 hrd with QRM from unID REL stn; signed off at 1645 with no SSB (Log sez U3 w/500 watts nights); gave QTH as Morningside-Washington, DC, is actually in MD; cut carrier promptly (PC-VA)

## UNIDS AND UNID HELP

I can't believe there's nothing in here this week!  
But it's true.

## DX AND EQUIPMENT TESTS

- 690 **KSTL MO ST. LOUIS** - 11/25 0101-0152 good → fair, at times overpowering WVOK and CBF with TTs, VIDs, polkas, frequent mentions of XR site at East St. Louis, IL and 1000 D1; report and tape sent, verie back in one week! (EB-GA)
- 1020 **KCKN NM ROSWELL** - 12/17 0230-0300 not a trace, just KDKA and weak SS (REH-ON)
- 1330 **KMBI WA SPOKANE** - 12/17 0300-0330 nothing definite; did note 1-second bursts of tone running up the scale at 20 second intervals during first half of TEST period; WFBK/KPH/KWLO were only opposition and all three were quite weak (REH-ON)
- 1590 **KTIL OR TILLAMOOK** - 12/16 0300-0330 not heard; too much WAKR and SS WONX whose persistent guitar plucking almost sounded like code IDs; also bothered by loud low-pitched het from some dope whose been off frequency for at least a year (REH-ON)

## MIDNIGHT TO 0800 HOURS ELT

- 1030 **WNTL MD INDIAN HEAD** - 12/15 0707 1st hrd as OC in WBZ null; OC got stronger; at 0715 sign-on ID: *WNTL Indian Head Super Station, Washington's International Sound* (PC-VA)
- 1050 **CHUM ON TORONTO** - 12/15 0700 with Broadcast News with Canadian nx (PC-VA)
- 1110 **CKTY ON SARNIA** - 12/15 0650 DJ *Ken Williams* w/C&W mx; over/under WBT (PC-VA)
- 1150 **WDEL DE WILMINGTON** - 12/16 0136 with wx, mx (PC-VA)
- 1180 **VOA FL MARATHON KEY** - 12/15 0630 with SS mx; over WHAM (PC-VA)
- 1200 **WOAI TX SAN ANTONIO** - 12/14 0538 with morning talk show about oil crisis (PC-VA) [Oil crisis? I'm getting regular unleaded for \$104.9/gallon, which is 10¢ less than it was in August - Ed.]
- 1330 **WADJ PA SOMERSET** - 12/15 0617 ID as *Radio 1330 WADJ Somerset* (PC-VA)
- 1480 **WTOY VA SALEM** - 12/15 0605 with news (PC-VA)
- 1550 **WARD PA PITTSSTON** - 12/13 0706 with ads for Scranton; Triple-A reports on Pennsylvania Hwy conditions; ID: *WARD All Talk 1550 AM*; CBE nulled (PA-VA)
- 1580 **WVKO OH COLUMBUS** - 12/16 0046 with rock mx (PC-VA)

## 0800 TO 1600 HOURS ELT

- 600 **WCAO MD BALTIMORE** - 12/15 0806 hrd while local WUSQ-610 had OC; modulation tbl? NBC Radio News, SID; quite weak (PC-VA)
- 620 **WHJB PA GREENBURG** - 12/15 0800 hrd while local WUSQ-610 had OC; modulation tbl? *Health Line* medical talk show with doctor of chiropractic; ID as *WHJB Greenburg/Pittsburgh* (PC-VA)

- 750 **WBMD MD BALTIMORE** - 12/14 0846 REL; *Seminar of the Air* (PC-VA)
- 910 **WSBA PA YORK** - 12/14 0823 morning call-in show with callers telling jokes...prize for the best one (PC-VA)
- 1120 **WBIS CT BRISTOL** - 12/23 1455 strong, in and out with WADN with numerous local ads during vet call-in show, *Dr. Jim's Animal Clinic*, ID as *Bristol, Terryville and another town* (HJH-PA)
- WADN **MA WALDEN** - 12/23 1455 strong, see-sawing with WBIS; ID as *Walden-1120*, had folk mx (HJH-PA) [That's 'cause they have lots of folks in Walden - Ed.]
- 1160 **WCCS PA HOMER CITY** - 12/23 1535 very loud with OLD and ID and *The Amazing AM* slogan; QRM from WJJD and probably WYNS (HJH-PA)
- 1200 **WKOX MA FRAMINGHAM** - 12/23 1509 very strong with promo that they are the Flagship of the Celtics; ID and slogans *AM-1200* and *Radio Metro West* (HJH-PA)
- 1560 **WAGC AL CENTRE** - 12/9 1133 good, tearing up WLJA with WYNX-1550 splash with *WAGC Gospel Sunday* mention, Southern Gospel mx, *Gospel Greats* promo, ad for *True Value Hardware* (EB-GA)

## 1600 TO 2400 HOURS ELT

- 560 **CJKL ON KIRKLAND LAKE** - 12/20 2140 fair - good with *CJKL Citizen of the Year* nomination; C&W-type Christmas mx including serious version *Christmas, Don't Be Late*, yes, really!! (HJH-PA) [I believe you, Harry - Ed.]
- 600 **CFCH ON NORTH BAY** - 12/21 1840-1855 weak, but increasing under WICC with CHR mx, ad for *Towers Midnight Madness Sale* (GV-PA)
- 640 **WGST GA ATLANTA** - 12/23 1720 poor - fair with severe splash from WEJL; slogan: *News Radio 640-WGST* w/teletalk & ad for *Wolf Camera & Video*; needed (HJH-PA)
- 730 **KSUD AR WEST MEMPHIS** - 12/8 2012 good - poor with others in XEX null with 73 *KSUD* slogan, concert promo, GOS mx (EB-GA)
- 800 **WCHA PA CHAMBERSBURG** - 12/16 1700 noted with NBC Nx (AP listed in Log) (PC-VA)
- 840 **WKDI MD DENTON** - 12/16 1645 sign-off with GOS song *May The Lord Bless You and Keep You*, also, *You are listening to WKDI, Denton, Easton and Annapolis* (PC-VA)
- 850 **KOA CO DENVER** - 12/20 2235 very loud at this time w/teletalk about Middle East situation; mixing with WRMR (HJH-PA)
- 880 **KGHT AR SHERIDAN** - 12/8 1737 good with good → fair \$ over WCBS with *AM 880 KGHT* and *AM Stereo 880 KGHT* slogans, C&W mx fed from SMN (EB-GA)
- KGHT **AR SHERIDAN** - 12/22 1754 fair with C&W mx w/WCBS nulled; IDs (HJH-PA)
- WBKZ **GA JEFFERSON** - 12/22 1754 sign-off, weak with WCBS and KGHT; numerous CIDs on sign-off; ex:WEEG (HJH-PA)
- KRVN **NE LEXINGTON** - 12/22 1812 fair signal, occasionally peaking over nulled WCBS; many local ads with Christmas greetings and one for *Valley Co-op* with locations in Imperial, Wauneta and two other towns; no CID hrd, so will wait for next time to count this (HJH-PA)
- 890 **WHNC NC HENDERSON** - 12/9 1654 fair with WLS with ad for *WHNC Sales Department*, into NOS/AC mx from Unistar J WQXI-790 (EB-GA)
- 950 **KXJK AR FOREST CITY** - 12/1 1759-1800 weak with wx report (43°), sign-off (GV-PA)
- WXGI **VA RICHMOND** - 12/2 1730-1800 very strong w/C&W mx with DJ *Bill Bannister; Richmond Crimestoppers Report @ 1750* (GV-PA)
- 1060 **WFLE KY FLEMINGSBURG** - 12/22 1713 fighting KYW again, the 2nd time this season; numerous local ads mentioning Flemingsburg; is this one really only 500 watts? (HJH-PA)
- 1150 **WNLR VA CHURCHVILLE** - 12/22 1600 strong with REL format and IDs mentioning Lexington, Christmas wishes and wx report; is this the former WABH-Deerfield? does anyone know? is Deerfield near there? (HJH-PA) [They are about 12-13 miles apart, just west of Staunton...don't know about the WABH thing... - Ed.]
- 1160 **WSKW ME SKOWHEGAN** - 12/22 1605 MoYL IDs into satellite service; power cut at 1611, but still audible (HJH-PA)
- WPTY **MD FUNKSTOWN** - 12/15 1730 weak under WYNS/others with Christmas songs; request # 733-8900 (GV-PA)
- 1190 **WBMJ PR SAN JUAN** - 12/9 1750-1805 weak, faded as WOWO took over; USA Net Nx, followed by OLD, Christmas songs (GV-PA)
- 1200 **WBZY PA NEW CASTLE** - 12/13 1657 over/under unID REL pgm and in WAGE null (PC-VA)
- 1260 **WJJI VA CHRISTIANSBURG** - 12/14 1720-1745 good with BRN Biznews & ads for stores in Blacksburg; *1260-J* slogan (GV-PA)
- 1270 **WMPM NC SMITHFIELD** - 12/21 1655-1700 poor under WLK/others; *Moments of Truth* inspirational pgm, followed by sign-off with SSB (GV-PA)

- 1300 **WXRL** NY LANCASTER - 12/10 1640-1645 brief, over WKCW; C&W mx, *RL Country* slogan, ad for *Alden State Bank* (GV-while driving near Bloomsburg, PA)
- 1320 **KSIV** MO CLAYTON - 12/15 1744 with TLK on *The New Age Movement*; broke for *AM-1320 KSIV* call ID and promo for *Christian* (or *Christmas*) *Panorama* weekdays at 7:05 AM and 5 PM here on *KSIV* - short ad for *May Miller Jewelers* and then lost with probable power cut (REH-ON)
- WLBB** VA RICHMOND - 12/12 1600 with *Chuck Roberts* talk show; *AM 1320, WLEE Radio* (PC-VA)
- 1350 **WBLT** VA BEDFORD - 12/10 1650-1700 fair with others; local nx mentioning Bedford City Planning Commission, ad for furniture store located on Rte 460 (GV-while driving near Bloomsburg, PA)
- 1370 **WSPD** OH TOLEDO - 12/15 2330 with *Skywatch Weather* (PC-VA)
- WJWS** VA SOUTH HILL - 12/15 1700 heard very briefly with CL ID (PC-VA)
- 1380 **WYNK** LA BATON ROUGE - 12/8 1753 fair - poor over WAOK/others with ad for *Hooked on Phonics*. And now, another 30 minutes commercial-free. *Nobody plays more music than Wink* slogan - C&W mx, legal ID at 1800 with mention of WYNK-FM 101.5 (EB-GA)
- WSYB** VT RUTLAND - 12/12 1610 surprise catch! with CL ID; surfaced momentarily amid the crud; verified by tape playback (PC-VA)
- 1390 **WTMS** ME PRESQUE ISLE - 12/11 1635-1645 briefly strong over WDOT/others with ads for stores in Plaster Rock & Woodstock, NB (GV-while driving near Fogelsville, PA)
- WTMS** ME PRESQUE ISLE - 12/11 2140 up good, briefly with *Oldies 96.1 WTMS* ID (HJH-PA)
- KRFO** MN OWATONNA - 12/16 1915 poor on PSSA with wx 4cast (winter storm warning) ending with *currently at KRFO we have 30°*; after TC had ad/PSA for the *Minnesota Jaycees \$100,000 High School Sweepstakes* (REH-ON)
- 1480 **WDAS** PA PHILADELPHIA - 12/12 1620 with wx, local nx; channel quite a jumble at this hour (PC-VA)
- WTOY** VA SALEM - 12/22 1625 soul mx, ad for local concerts; slogan: *The New WTOY*; ex:WBLU (HJH-PA)
- 1580 **WWOF** NC CAMP LEJEUNE - 12/15 1635-1700 very strong with ContChr mx; *Eastern Carolina's Christian Connection* slogan; sign-off at 1700 (GV-PA)
- WXMY** VA SALTVILLE - 12/15 1708-1715 fair with WWRL/others; nx, C&W mx, sign-off at 1715 mentioning Saltville and Chilhowie, Hwy 610 & 107; *My Country* slogan; formally WKGK (GV-PA)

## REPORTERS

- EB-GA ERIC BUENEMAN//Woodstock, GA//DX-200, TM-152, SM-2
- PC-VA PERRY CRABILL, W3HQX//Winchester, VA/R-5000, 65' Inverted "L", 2' homebrew loop, Realistic CTR-75 cassette recorder
- GV-PA GEORGE VANISH//Trucksville, PA//various car radios
- HJH-PA HARRY HAYES//Wilkes-Barre, PA//Superadio, Superloop
- REH-ON CHARLES REH//Leamington, ON//R-390A + Sanserino Loop + TR-3000 open reel tape recorder

## ABBREVIATIONS AND SPECIAL SYMBOLS USED IN DDXD-E

||:parallel with or to -to or into :On 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 ContChr:contemporary  
 Christian EZL:easy listening EB:English FF:French GOS:gospel IRN:Interstate Radio Net j:jingle LSR:local sunrise  
 LSS:local sunset mx:music n:news NPR:National Public Radio OC:open carrier 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 S: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

TB, Bill

## Promote the NRC and DX News and help us grow!

Planning to attend a DX'ers or hobbyist gathering? Include *DX News* in your plans. Upon request, we'll send you a packet of up to 50 recent *DXN's* to be given free to attendees. Just send a postcard to NRC - P. O. Box 5711 - Topeka, KS 66605. Packets are sent by Book Rate, so please allow 21 days for delivery. Thanks - and tell your friends that the NRC is on the grow!

# Domestic DX Digest - West

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

Wayne Heinen

4131 S. Andes Way  
 Aurora, CO 80013  
 FIDO NET 104/108  
 (303) 699-6335 (prepaid only)

- DX TESTS!**
- 1290 KHSL CA Chico  
 12/10 0259 Noted w/ s/off ann to SSB at 0300. (TH-CA)
- 1300 KBRL NE McCook  
 12/20 0811 Lcl ads, Howard Cosell's "Speaking of Sports" Good on Peaks. (0W-CO)
- 1310 CHLWt AB St. Paul  
 12/23 0647 Fair w/Star Country Net C&W; ments of "Alberta Network"; Wx 0650. (0W-CO)
- 1340 KHUB NE Fremont  
 12/24 0600 Apparent s/on "KHUB Fremont, Nebraska" into ABC Nx. Fair NE #43. (WH-CO)
- 1340 KNHN KS Kansas City  
 12/24 0600 "Each and Every hour KNHN Headline News" to CNN. Fair w/KHUB. KS # 51. (WH-CO)
- 1440 WGEN IL Quincy  
 12/19 0826 Wx, lcl ads No ID 0830 Paul Harvey. Good on peaks w/KRDZ/KMAJ. (0W-CO)
- 1470 KMFI AZ Sierra Vista  
 12/24 0318-0329 Christmas Music to weak ID 0129 followed by "Tom Dooley" AZ # 46 (WH-CO)
- 1560 KKID OK Sallisaw  
 12/24 0200 Legal ID to SNN Nx... 0205 "KKID Kiddin' Country playing your favorite Country back to back." then C&W. Last hrd as KRBB in 1980. (WH-CO)
- 1570 KNDY KS Marysville  
 12/23 0105 KC Chiefs pgm note "That game here on KNDY" then ID & maybe s/off, not hrd after 0106. KS # 41 (0W-CO)
- 1570 CHUB BC Nanaimo  
 12/19 0925 Poor o /KLOV w/ID, BC # 9 (JT-CO)
- 1570 WBEE IL Harvey  
 12/23 0200 ID by OM; "This is WBEE 15-70 AM Harvey..." possibly dual city ID..weak IL # 18 (0W-CO)
- 1590 KCIN CA Victorville  
 12/16 0306 Noted s/off w/o SSB u/KOGO. (TH-CA)
- Midday to Midnight!**
- 890 QQLX ND Lisbon  
 12/19 1743 Fair w/ s/off and SSB. ND #13 (JT-CO)
- 1010 KBBW TX Waco-Marlin  
 12/26 1834 Poor/Fair w/ "The Year in Review" TX # 92 (JT-CO)
- 1050 KLOH MN Pipestone  
 12/20 1722 Fair w/KLMO slop; area Sx, Sears ad, Call ID. (0W-CO)
- 1050 CKSB MB St. Boniface  
 12/19 1850 Strong w/FF for almost 1 hr. MB # 13 (JT-CO)
- 530 CJFT ON Ft. Erie  
 12/24 0128 "AM 530 CJFT & AM 710 CJRN" ID mixed w/Stapleton Airport TIS. Lcl Cherry Creek Park TIS off. Rare these days. (WH-CO)
- 650 CKOM SK Saskatoon  
 12/22 0554 Good w/ ID by man, lcl ads & promo's. Rare here and almost never this good (TH-CA)
- 650 WSM TN Nashville  
 12/23 0356-0429 Fair/good w/ C&W and XMAS Mx, lots of ID's & promo's. Needed for f/up. Usually XETNT/KMTI/CISL/KUUU. (TH-CA)
- 870 CKIR BC Invermere  
 12/23 0725 Mention of "...CKXR Salmon Arm" maybe // Later w/CKIR call, lcl ads; OLD Mx to 0900Nx. Mixed w/WWL at first; later KPRM. At 1000 w pleased with this catch. BC #8 (0W-CO)
- 900 KNUI HI Wailuku  
 12/23 0336 Fair w/XEW w/lcl ads. Rare. (TH-CA)
- 920 KXLY WA Spokane  
 12/23 0429 Fair w/Nx & Wx. Nice to hear something other than KECR slop. (TH-CA)
- 1220 KDDR ND Oakes  
 12/23 0758 Fair/Poor w/ SSB s/on and NBC Nx. (0W-CO)



- 1110 KEOR OK Atoka  
12/26 1758 REL Mx & ID's OK # 30 (JT-CO)
- 1530 KKCM MN Shakopee  
12/19 1700 Good w/KCMN nulled. Lcl trf @ 1705, psa Crime Stoppers. REL Format. "Minnesota Christian Connection" MN # 24 (JT-CO)
- 1560 KKID OK Sallisaw  
12/22 2327 Fair on peaks "Hit Kickin' Country KKID, 96 FM" OK #28 (JT-CO)
- 1580 KNIM MO Marysville  
12/19 1725 "It's 25 past 4 O'clock on KNIM" American T-40 promo... MO #31 (JT-CO)
- (JT-CO) Jeff Tynan Parker, CO | Sony-2002 w/2401si Loop
- (RO-AK) Rod O'Connor Kodiak, AK | GE SuperRadio w/4' loop
- (TH-CA) Tim Hall Chula Vista, CA | ICF-2010, Radio West Loop
- (WH-CO) Wayne Heinen Aurora, CO | R-390A, 4' NRC loop

Wayne

**Contributors!**

(0W-CO) John Wilkins Ridge Wheat, CO | R-1000,

**Facts About NRC's DX Audio Service**

The DX Audio Service, now in its third year of operation, provides the ONLY monthly broadcast news cassette service to the DX community.

The DX Audio Service, available to anyone anywhere, is designed to inform the radio listener in a way that is pleasing and informative. Many of the announcers on the service are professional broadcasters giving their free time to give the listener the finest service available.

DXAS was started to provide broadcast information, both AM and FM to the blind DX listener. It has evolved into a service which provides useful material to all types of listeners. Many of our subscribers listen to the tape to and from their place of work while driving down the road.

One-year subscription, subscriber keeps the cassette each month: \$25 Sample copy, back issues of DXAS: \$3

Cassettes are mailed by First Class mail, on or about the 20th of the month. Information, subscriptions, renewals, sample copies: write to NRC DX Audio Service - P. O. Box 24 - Cambridge, WI 53523-0024. For back issues: NRC Publications.

**NRC AM RADIO LOG**

*1991 Edition*

*The 1991 NRC Log contains two cross-reference sections and more station information than ever before. Only \$16.95; Canada \$17.95 to U. S./Canadian NRC Subscribers ONLY. \$19.95 to U. S., Non-NRC Subscriber; \$20.95 Canadian Non-NRC Subscriber. Others - please write.*

*Mail or Call your order in. Specify your mailing address and number of Logs ordered. Make out check or money order to: NRC. Mail to: NRC Publications - Box 164 - Mannsville, NY 13661 or use your credit card (VISA/MC) and call (608) 423-4159*

**The Challenging Crystal Set**

For hobbyists demanding the ultimate DX challenge, Ray Cole's publication detailing step-by-step procedures in building a crystal set is for you! Only \$3.00 ... order from the Publications Center, or use your Visa/Mastercard by phoning (608) 423-4159. Overseas customers, please write.

**Verification Signers**

**Wayne Heinen**

4131 S. Andes Way  
Aurora, CO 80013  
(303) 699-6335 (prepaid only)

*A listing of verification letter signers, contributed by NRC members*

Freq.	Call	Verie Signer	Contributer	1450	WTSAL	Ken Webbley DJ	DT
540	CBKq	Stan Ewert T	HF	1490	KORNI	J.P. Skelly DJ	0W
540	CJSBf	Jeff Ruck CE	DT	1490	WABJl	Jane Seidel OIM	HF
570	KKWMIz	Susan MacLean AtoGM	WH	1490	WABJl	Bruce Goldsen GM	DT
640	WOIq	David Knippel CE	HF/WH	1490	WJNLI	Bill Caramana CE	DT
650	KMTIf	U/U	0W	1490	WLPAl	William F. Richardson IV NxD	DT
670	WIEZl	Dave Supplee CE	HK	1500	KABRlz	Colleen Keane M	0W
690	KPETImzu	Dana Moares SlsM	0W	1510	WKKUpu	John D. Kennedy	HH
690	KSTLqzb	U/U	0W/WH	1520	WKBfM	Tom Atkins DTop	DT
690	WPDQpu	U/U	HH	1550	WBSCLr	Ken Harmon GM	MH
710	WRENI	Nancy Jackett PubRel	HK	1550	WCXJl	Del King GM/PD	DT
780	WJAGIbz	Tony Wortmann CE	0W	1560	KCJjp	U/U	0W
790	CIGMI	Scott Sloan EDept	HK	1560	KKAAlb	Dick Feist SlsSu	0W
790	KURMIzb	Helene Fraley OIM	WH	1560	KNZRlz	Randy Warwick GM	WH
820	WBAPfb	Clay Steely CE	HF/DT	1570	KOSZlz	Debra Kribell GM	0W/WH
850	WNISlzb	Pat Murphy OpM	HF	1570	WFURf	Bill Kuiper Jr	HF
850	WSACI	James J. Boxler CE	BW	1590	WASBl	Dr. David L Wolfe M	DT
860	CJBCq	U/U	HF	1600	WARUl	James L. Swearingen CE	WH
930	WZNNI	Fredrika Bliden-Olsen BusM	HK	1600	WAYCl	John H. Cessna VP/GM	HH
950	KLIKI	Bobby Jackson PD	BW	1600	WIXYlu	Miahele Payne	HH
950	WSPAq	Craig Turner CE	DT	1600	WMCr	R. Ferrara CE	DT
970	WATHIb	Wiliam J. Stock COp	BW	1600	Harold Frodge		MI
990	WALE	Rob Michaels PD	HK				
990	WIVKfu	Milton Jones CE	0W				
1020	WKZEpu	U/U	HH	0W	John Wilkins		CO
1050	WEVDpu	U/U CE	HH	BW	Bob Walker		MI
1060	KKDSb	NO QSL!	0W	MH	Mike Hardester		NC
1080	CKSAIbt	Erynn Fisher PromD	0W	HH	Hank Holbrook		MD
1080	KWJJIb	Chris Cullen CE	0W	DT	Don Trelford		ON
1150	WCENlz	Jim Sommerville OpM	HF	HK	Howard Kemp		NH
1200	WKITl	John Pineau GM	HK	WH	Wayne Heinen		CO
1210	CFYMpb	Early Harris PD	WH				
1220	WKNRI	David M. Marcis TOpM	HH				
1230	KTRFlbz	Mark Allen PD	0W				
1230	WCMCl	Carlton S. Owen TD	DT				
1240	KWOSlm	Frank Newell O/GM	0W				
1240	WBBWl	U/U EDept	DT				
1250	CBGAl	Claude Duberger	HH				
1250	CBOFlq	Marcel Carriere AudRel	HH				
1290	WCBLLzb	Tom Dolan PD	WH				
1300	KBRLlmb	Ron Crowe P	WH				
1300	KLERl	Jeff Jones GM	WH				
1310	WDOCIbz	Bob Williams CE	HF				
1320	CKECq	D. Freeman	HH				
1340	WALLl	Bud Williamson CE	DT				
1340	WHAP!	Bruce J. Connon VP/GM	HH				
1360	CKBCl	Kevin Chamberlain E	HH				
1360	WIXZf	Richard J. Ruby CE	HH				
1360	WNNJl	Frank Truatt PD	HH				
1390	WBLLl	Bill Appel PD	HF				
1390	WNLFlb	David Huva COp	HF				
1440	WLPZl	Roger Brace DoE	HK				
1450	KNSII	Craig Bomgaars CE	DT				
1450	KWBWl	Dan Deming M	0W				
1450	WCLlI	Scott A. Bloor GM	DT				
1450	WMAJl	Roger Corey OpM	DT				
1450	WPSEIm	Fred Anzivino M	DT				

**A NEW DAY FOR NEW YORK**



JOIN OUR CELEBRATION OF TRANSFORMATION

**WMCA**  
INSPIRATIONAL RADIO FIRST ON YOUR DIAL  
**570 AM**



# International DX Digest

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

**Jim Renfrew**  
61 Wilcox Street  
Rochester, NY 14607-3832

Hi there friends and neighbors. Happy New Year to one and all. I finally heard some TA hets during Christmas week. Only a few showed audio. Even though the A and K indices have been low lately, I suspect that my urban electrical environment is not conducive to quality TA DX. It would be nice to move away from the Rochester antenna farm, even to the other side of the city!

Your many kind remarks regarding IDXD are much appreciated. Thank you!

JIM



## PAN-AMERICAN

- 650 MEXICO unID 1101 12/8. XE anthem weak through XETNT/KUUY (XETNT anthem @ 1300). 12/9 1101 ditto. 12/10 1057 ditto. 12/21 1105 noted w/program of ranchera mx from "R. ACIR" satellite feed. 12/22 1101 XE anthem u/XETNT. Almost has to be needed XEEJ Puerto Vallarta; everything matches. [TRH-CA]
- 650 MEXICO unID 1157 12/21. XE anthem, distorted audio. Doesn't match unXETNT or needed XEEJ. Possibly XEZM? [TRH-CA]
- 660 MEXICO XEEY, Jalpa 1140 12/22. In this morning w/"La Consentida" mentions and local temps in Celsius. Anybody else hear this frequency change yet? [TRH-CA]
- 711 CUBA R. Rebelde 0100 12/16 & 17. Easily separable from KNUS-710, causing a good het on 710, // 5025 shortwave. [WH-CO] This one causing the strong het, not Morocco. [BD-PA]
- 770 MEXICO unID 1115 12/8. Possibly needed XEATH, heard 2 garbled IDs. Nothing else listed should be on at this hour. Will keep trying. [TRH-CA]
- 770 MEXICO unID 1134 12/10 (MM). Ranchera way u/KKOB. [TRH-CA]
- 780 MEXICO unID 1158 12/8. Fast XE anthem, fast talking DJ, soon faded. [TRH-CA]
- 780 MEXICO XESFT, San Fernando 1159

12/9. Possible s/on, mx, slogan "La Fronta (not frontera) Norteña exactly as reported by John Wilkins (thanks for the tip). Finally caught a nice clear ID on tape @ 1252, only the power was garbled. I had two contradictory listings for this station, one said 24h w/2kW, the other 1200-0600 w/10kW. Believe the latter is correct. [TRH-CA]

- 780 MEXICO unID 1203 12/9. Another station signing on u/XESFT. Possibly needed XEMTS, seemed to loop that way. XE anthem, garbled ID, ad. Soon faded. [TRH-CA]
- 780 VENEZUELA R. Coro 0834 12/25. Heard w/"Feliz Navidad" greeting and R. Coro ID. Interference from WBBM and unID SS stn (hoping to get XESFT). [JR-NY]
- 790 CUBA R. Reloj (site unk) 0740 12/29. Ticking and CIDs. Poor. [JR-NY]
- 810 COLOMBIA Caracol 0644 12/22. Heard w/mx // 4865 shortwave, poor u/WGY. [JR-NY]
- 830 unID 1049 12/8. Man in SS talking about diseases. Mx sounded like the Ecuadorian, not heard in a couple of years. [TRH-CA]
- 1050 MEXICO XED, Mexicali 0954 12/8 (Sa). Huge OC, leaving XEG and unID NDS stn. [TRH-CA]
- 1170 MEXICO XEYH, Hermosillo 1317 12/9. Fair through delicate null of KCQB. This is apparently our unID R. Mexicana, noted w/this slogan and lots of R. Mil network IDs and jx. "R. Mexicana" slogan possibly only used for their early morning ranchera program. [TRH-CA]
- 1550 MEXICO unID 0650-0656 12/29. Heard some SS mx and talk, so I thought I'd wait until 0700 to listen for ID, all of the sudden at 0653, announcer concluded with "¡Super!" then XE anthem, then gone by 0656. DF correct for Mexico. WRTH shows XERUY s/off at 0700. Other ideas? Fair in WCCZ null. [JR-NY]

*Radio Tashkent*

## TRANS-ATLANTIC



RADIODIFUSÃO PORTUGUESA EP

R. CASERMEIRO 30 - TEL. 53 51 51 - 1108 LISBOA CODEX

- 666 PORTUGAL Lisbon 2210 12/18. Good signal. Hasn't been at this level for some time. Will be hearing this one as a local in January when we visit Lisbon. [BD-PA]
- 675 NETHERLANDS Lopik 0215 12/18. Fair signal, and all alone on frequency, as Marseille is off Tuesday mornings. [BD-PA]
- 756 ROMANIA Lugoj 0240-0440 12/24. Very good w/religious sounding CLA mx and female announcer. Seemed to be // 855. This one was a regular in the mid-1960s, but have heard only rarely since then. [BD-PA]
- 765 SWITZERLAND Sottens 0048-0200 12/18. In quite well, almost non-stop CLA mx. Then in well again on 12/23 after 2315, and on 12/24 until after 0410. [BD-PA]
- 765 SENEGAL Dakar 2350-2400 12/22. Strong w/African singing until s/off. No sign of Sottens. [BD]
- 783 GERMANY Burg 0300 12/24. Peaked around this time w/nx read by a man. In and out all evening. [BD-PA] (Former DDR; Distance gives ID on this as "R. Aktuell" - Jim)
- 855 ROMANIA Bucharest 0300-0400 12/24. CLA mx and female announcer, heard w/fair to good signal, seemed // to 756, though not nearly as strong. [BD-PA]
- 873 Germany AFN, Stuttgart 0130 12/24. Heard briefly with Christmas song. [BD-PA] (Ben, Distance states that AFN services will be reduced, perhaps even closed down, in the future - Jim)
- 882 Germany Wachenbrunn (tent) 0415 12/24. Up strong, but briefly w/a man singing a ballad. Had been in and out all evening, and language was not EE. [BD-PA] (Distance gives ID for this former DDR station as "Thüringer Rundfunk" - Jim)
- 1017 GERMANY Rheinsender 0400 12/24. Fair signal. [BD-PA]
- 1134 YUGOSLAVIA RTVZ, Zadar (tent) 0350-0405 12/30. Fair audio in WNEW slop w/music, but announcements on the hour too weak to hear, possible pips at that time. WRTH says 24 hrs on Saturdays, and should ID as "Dvde Radio Televizijska Zagreb." but I wonder if they will soon announce as "Hrvatska" (Croatia) in light of autonomy efforts? [JR-NY]
- 1314 NORWAY NRK, Kvitsoy (tent) 2303 12/29. Man reading news in what sounded like Norwegian, in the clear for a few moments then faded out, though het remained. If only I had tried this 3 minutes earlier! [JR-NY] Way up at 0225 on 12/20 with pop mx, and on 12/24 between 0200 and 0400. [BD-PA]
- 1521 SAUDI ARABIA Daba 0311 12/22. Causing loud het on 1520, occasional fade-ups of AA chanting. Just about gone by 0430. DF correct for this. New for Arabia #1 and Asia #1. Whatta great Xmas present! [RF-OH] (Rich, the fact that you heard AA with correct DF doesn't positively identify this one, although you are right to speculate that it is almost certainly Saudi Arabia. I only log these things, short of an actual ID, if I can get a RSL out of them with my tentative report. I don't say this to be a nit-picker, only to urge all of us to be cautious when receiving stations in challenging languages. I'm still trying to get an ID on this one myself, though the het is in every night - Jim)
- 1566 TUNISIA Sfax (tent) 2240-2250 12/29. Slight audio in a strong het. As I played with every knob on the HQ-150, I could catch a hint of AA mx, but not strong enough to check with // 7475. [JR-NY]
- 1566 SWITZERLAND Sarnen 0550 12/25. CLA mx sounded like the Swiss night program as heard earlier in the week on 765. Much weaker signal. [BD-PA]

## STATION NEWS

Neatest DX I've heard of in a long time: In Scandinavia, LHA heard CBGA3-1550, Riviere-au-Renard QC, 40 watts! (Distance)

BOTSWANA: 648 is now 0300-2100. (Monitoring Times)

PR CHINA: 1341 R. Beijing in EE 1200-1400. (MT)



USSR: 972 R. Yuzhno-Sakalinsk heard 1929-2100, 0115-0200 M-F. (MT)

**UNITED KINGDOM:** A new broadcasting bill becomes law on 1/1/91. IBA to be replaced by a new Radio Authority. A massive expansion in the number of independent stations (200-300) is envisioned, with some BBC channels going commercial. (Communication/Distance)

(Distance and mv-eko are received here on a regular basis in exchange for DX News. Very interesting to see the huge number of North American stations that are being heard from Scandinavia this season. Any NRCers wanting subscription info for these fine newsletters, please send an SASE to me)

## NO TANGO IN BUENOS AIRES?

On page 6 of the October 15 issue of DX NEWS I read in a very small clipping from "Billboard" the information that "none of the privately owned FM stations in what is known as the Tango Capital of the World actually plays tango music."

I happen to disagree with this information as I am a tango fan, and I usually try to be up-to-date with news coming from or related to Argentina, especially if they mention tangos, as I am always trying to buy more new records of this music or collecting clippings from any publication related to tango.

Perhaps the news released by UPI on May 22nd, 1990, was not published on all U.S. newspapers and was not read by many persons interested, or DX'ers, but I could read it in almost all newspapers published in Santo Domingo. Here is a translation for those of you who missed it:

"BUENOS AIRES, May 22nd (UPI).- Young rock fans have created in Buenos Aires an FM radio station which for the first time in the tango capital broadcasts this kind of music all day long.

With almost two months in operation and with a growing audience 'FM Tango' seems to bring back to life the almost forgotten interest of Buenos Aires citizens to hear tangos, where more tourist than residents fill the places where tango night shows are presented. Even though some tango programs can be heard through some AM stations, this is the first time that only tango music is broadcasted by an FM station in the country, for 20 hours a day.

Gustavo Noya, 'FM Tango' artistic director, said that the first person to come to him with this idea was Michel Peyronel, a member of one of the Argentinian rock groups, 'Riffy Tarzen', and it's really a very curious case as those two kind of music have very little in common either in time or rhythm. With Carlos Hanson and Roque Cassini, owners of Radio Splendid, they could make it come true a year later. "We only occupied an empty and uncared space on the Argentine radio, that is why the idea created such enthusiasm among the people", Noya said.

According to him there are only twenty persons working on this radio station, but only one, Oscar del Priore, specialist in tangos, is the one who knows and prepares the programs. "When they called me my first thought was not to go", Del Priore confessed to United Press International. "It was so much the work that had to be done that I thought I was going to become a slave of that station, but luckily it was not so". With Del Priore's musical coordination in 'FM Tango' you can hear everything, and it is not impossible to listen to the deep voice of Roberto Goyeneche in the sad and plaintive tango 'Sur' followed by some other melody inviting you to dance. Francisco Canaro, Alfredo de Angelis, Osvaldo Fresedo or Anibal Troilo, famous directors of typical tango orchestras, live figures of tango, form the base of the programming which does not lack anything. Milongas, waltzes and all the poetry created by Homero Manzi or Enrique Santos Discipolo, Argentine representatives of the brilliant decades of 1930 and 1940, live together in a radio

## CONTRIBUTORS

- [BD-PA] Ben Dangerfield, Wallingford PA; HQ-180, Radio West loop
- [RF-OH] Rich Frcho, Willoughby OH; Drake R7A, JRC NRC-S15, LA-36 Loop, LW
- [TRH-CA] Tim Hall, Chula Vista CA; Sony ICF-2010, Radio West loop. about to travel in Mexico!
- [WH-CO] Wayne Heinen, Denver CO; R-390A and 4' loop
- [JR-NY] Jim Renfrew, Rochester, NY; HQ-150, SM-1

By César Objío

which only have one objective: to play tangos.

And it happens as it was during the life of Carlos Gardel, whom 'FM Tango' remembers constantly in its daily programming. 'Melodias de Arrabal', 'Volver' or 'Mi Buenos Aires Querido', are tangos repeated frequently as a homage to its author whose work flew over the limits of the song in order to become almost a legend. And in the streets, where you hear it, the response of the people complies with what is happening in the radio station itself.

'I am listening the station since the beginning and I am happy. I discovered it the very first day it started operation, and as I work at home I could listen it for many hours. I could not believe it, so I told everybody', said Eduardo Scornavache, a 50 year old architect.

For Hugo Taddei, a 28 year old musician, 'FM Tango' is a good idea, very important for the presentation of a music which has lasted through time. 'I like tangos as my parents made me listen to it since I was a kid, but I don't know what other persons of my own age may think of it', he said.

Not all opinions approve the idea as in the case of Raul Machado, a radio speaker, who said: 'Tango belongs to the past, and the words have lost its actuality. For instance, 'el farolito de la calle en que nací' (the little candlelight in the street I was born), there are no candlelights in the streets any longer, and when I was born there weren't either. The 'percantá' (girl) does not exist anymore or the sound of 'milongas' in the neighborhood I think that if we keep living in the past we'll never come to develop.'

Oswaldo Piro is a known composer of modern tango, or the vanguard tango, as it is called. He is 53 years old and has a personal style which gave him a spontaneous difference among his friends. For him, the new radio is a good idea which goes beyond a simple tango programming: 'It is done in order to publicize an identity and allow the young ones (25 to 30 years old) to come forward and accept it.' Oswaldo Pugliese is a master composer. Defined as a 'living myth' who represents the traditional tango and with its 44 years of age he rehearses with his orchestra with the same enthusiasm with which he started his career 60 years ago."

End of the news. And it is true, I have received cassettes recordings from this station with tangos recorded by my friend Julian Anderson in Buenos Aires. Frequency is 95.9 MHz and stereo. Another station with only tango music all day long in Buenos Aires is "FM Nacional" (from Radio Nacional, the government station) on 96.7 MHz, also stereo. Naturally, the station also presents ads, news, local information and talks about tangos with stories of some of them, or with the speakers personal memories of times gone in order to have an entertaining program to listeners. So, on your next trip to Buenos Aires, and if you love tangos as I do, you may take your 'walkman' with you, as now you know the frequencies of stations presenting tangos to be heard all day long wherever you go in Buenos Aires, only for your listening pleasure.

# Station Profile

A special feature concerning a unique station

**Tony Fitzherbert**

356 Jackman Avenue  
Fairfield, CT 06430

"It's 20 minutes before five! This is Lee Marshall - 20 - 20 News! An unidentified young boy was riding his bike on Van Dyke this afternoon when a steel truck collided with that boy, knocking him about twenty feet. Eyewitness Dennis Mays was there. He called the law, then the Big 8 to say it was enough to make you sick....."

(From a typical Big 8 Newscast in the early '70's).

**QUESTION:** What foreign country radio station consistently appeared among the top three in the Arbitrons during every ratings period from 1965 into the 1970's - in at least three United States markets?

**ANSWER:** CKLW, Windsor, ON., regularly appeared at the top of the ratings in Detroit, Toledo, and Cleveland - and this 50,000 watt station was the third most listened to station in the entire world from 1967 to 1975. Here is the profile of that legend. The unique trademark of the "Big 8" as it was known throughout the world was the famous "This is CKLW 20 - 20 News" followed by a big, booming voice reporting of floaters, carnage, rape, rotting corpses, bellowing flames, smashing metal on the freeway, grisly murders, and other mayhem, sandwiched between rapid fire rock and roll records.



One of the most colorful and listened to stations on earth originated in Windsor as a 5000 watt CBS network station in 1932. CKOK signed on the air on 540 khz. No Canadian Government's restrictions prohibited affiliation with U.S. radio networks in these early years. The fledgling station, owned by a group of Windsor businessmen, first signed on the air on June 1, 1932.

On November 6, 1933, CKOK moved to the more favorable dial position of 840 khz, still with 5000 watts' power. The call was changed to CKLW, and, in 1934, CKLW moved to 1030 khz, before settling on 800 khz in 1941. In 1935, CKLW dropped CBS to become one of the original affiliates of the Mutual Broadcasting System. Additionally, until July 1, 1950, when the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation put CBE - 1550 on the air, CKLW was the Windsor outlet for the CBC. The CKOK call in 1946 surfaced north in Sarnia, on 1070 khz.

Through World War II years, with Mutual and CBC programming, CKLW regularly aired classical music, country concerts, featuring acts such as the "Sons of the Saddle", and the popular announcer "Uncle Dudley". Dramas and network feed rounded out CKLW's programming. The CKOK - CKLW studio was a cavernous auditorium, equipped with a grand piano, many sound effects, and space for the studio orchestra.

In 1948, CKLW became only the second privately owned Canadian station to be granted 50,000 watts, even though the station had a "poor record" for airing Canadian programs and employing Canadian talent. The issue of mandatory Canadian talent on the air was enacted by the Broadcast Act of 1958, and was enforced by the Board of Broadcast Governors, replaced in 1968 by the Canadian Radio-Television Commission - an agency which CKLW has suffered a checkered relationship.

To transmit the 50,000 watt signal, CKLW constructed a building and five guyed 3000 foot high towers on Highway 18, 8 miles of Harrow, Ontario. The 50,000 watt signal began on September 7, 1949. A new building housed the station's RCA transmitter at the site, 35 miles south of Windsor. Also in 1948, CKLW added a 250 watt FM outlet, on 93.9 mhz, and simulcasted the AM programming.

In March, 1956, RKO Distributing Corporation became the primary owner of CKLW.

## The Broadcaster's Guide to DX

A tri-fold guide for use with reception reports explaining DX'ing, how the NRC was formed, and the importance of QSL's to DX'ers. Versions also available in Spanish and French. US\$1.50 for 20. Available from the Pub Center.



### CKLW's Unique Geographical Location and Market.

CKLW today remains unusual in that it was licensed to a city of 200,000 people a mile South of the USA's fifth largest city - separated only by the mile wide Detroit River. Much of Windsor's economy, like Detroit's is dependent upon auto manufacturing. Thousands of workers daily cross the border via the Ambassador Bridge and the Detroit River Tunnel, and rush hour backups to clear the tolls and customs may take more than a half hour. The differences between Detroit and Windsor are far wider than the river. Detroit is home to a wide variety of ethnics, epitomizing the melting pot of the U.S. While Blacks make up over 60% of Detroit, followed by vast sections of Poles, Greeks, and Arabs, Windsor maintains a distinctly Canadian mix of French and English. Windsor is very clean and quiet.

CKLW serves both markets, but has identified more with the giant Detroit metropolis, much to the chagrin of the CRTC. Studies today show that at any time, 70% to 90% of all Windsor radios are tuned to US stations. The 50,000 watt signal of CKLW is regularly heard in four provinces and at least 28 states. The international audience causes CKLW some problems, not the least of which has traditionally been conformity to the CRTC guidelines regarding Canadian talent (30% of all records aired on Canadian AM stations must be by Canadian artists, and broadcasters must tape their entire broadcast day for possible CRTC audits). This requirement has caused Canadian performers to often release their hits in the USA first. Otherwise American radio has not taken the "Subsidized Hits" seriously.

Conversely, CKLW did not have the public service requirements that the FCC has imposed upon its Detroit competition. However, all Canadian broadcasting format changes had to be sanctioned by the CRTC, as changes are today.

### The Big 8

In September, 1966, CKLW General Manager Bob Busse hired Paul Drew as program director. Searching for means to combat the gravitation of listeners to television, Drew realized that rock and roll would be the salvation of CKLW. Drew convinced RKO to install a rock format on CKLW. Thus, the "boss sounds" format, developed by California DJ Bill Drake, was adapted on all RKO stations including CKLW. The Drake sound was inspired by instant success on RKO-owned KHJ, Los Angeles.

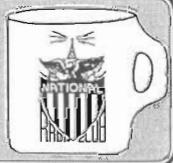
Rock in place, CKLW immediately spiraled to the top of the Detroit ratings. Management then went further than any other North American rock station with 20 - 20 news. To attract listeners from news heavy WJW and WJR, 20 - 20 News with local and bloody emphasis (at 20 after and 20 before the hour) aired. Partial logic behind the 20 - 20 scheduling was motivated by the ratings. Most listeners enjoyed the music, and to be accurately rated, station management believed it necessary to program two back to back 15 minute quarter hours of music, from :45 to :20. 20 - 20 News and an average of 16 records per hour played by colorful disc jockeys, propelled CKLW to heights never before reached in Detroit. CKLW demolished the prominence of rock station WNKR-1310, Dearborn ("Keener - 13"), whose six tower directional array failed to get the 5000 watt signal into Detroit's east side, or Windsor. CKLW's signal not only blanketed all of metropolitan Detroit, but it covered almost half of the United States. Not only was CKLW #1 in Cleveland, Toledo, and Detroit, by it showed up in the ratings in such places as Hartford, Camden, NJ, and Danbury, CT. In Danbury, when local WLAD - 800 left the air at sunset, CKLW thundered in at almost local strength, much to the delight of Danbury listeners.

.....the gang went fishing this afternoon, and pulled up something that they weren't planning on for dinner.....it turned out to be a rotting body. Eyewitness Charles Evans told the 20 - 20 hot line that stiff sunk to the bottom slipping from the worm baited hook that belonged to Virginia Findlay, who tells what the floater looked like....

(....from a CKLW 20 - 20 newscast....)

### NRC Coffee Mug

Nine-ounce size ... white glass ... with NRC emblem printed in black on both sides. It's oven-proof and microwavable. Makes a great gift for a fellow DX'er or for yourself. \$6 to U. S. addresses \$6.75 Canadian. Order from the Pub Center.



### Big 8 Music

Rosalie Trombley, CKLW music director, known as "The Hit Maker" was perhaps the most wooed female in the radio industry. In 1968, Rosalie moved from her part time switchboard operator's job into the record library. Her penchant for selecting potential hits won her the powerful music director's job. Often a Canadian record played on CKLW sold more copies in Detroit than in all of Canada. Every Thursday, limousines containing record producers and artists lined up along the curb, as the passengers meekly and respectfully awaited an audience with Rosalie, fervently praying that she would not turn thumbs down on air play on CKLW. Air play on the Big 8 virtually guaranteed air time all over the United States and Canada and a shot at the Top Ten. In its heyday, CKLW broke perhaps 95% of all of the hit records in North America. Radio stations all over the US and Canada obtained CKLW's hit lists to see what was "Hit Bound". Trombley had been with CKLW since 1963, and the rows of gold and platinum records that lined her office walls attested to her influence. The Thursday parade of groveling directors and record company executives was a legend. Struggling Detroit musician Bob Seger whose songs were played on local FM rock stations could not crack the Big 8. He wrote a song about the powerful Trombley, and "Rosalie" became quite popular in the US, and was eventually played on CKLW.

Stevie Wonder was one who knew the importance of CKLW. When he married for the first time, he invited the on air staff to the wedding.

CKLW's parade of personalities, particularly the morning disc jockeys, were Detroit household names. Robin Seymour went from CKLW to West Coast radio. Gary "The Morning Mouth" Burbank left for WLW, Cincinnati. Popular in the 1970's was Buffalo DJ Tom Shannon, who came from, and later returned to Buffalo's WKBW. WXYZ's Dick Purtan did morning duty when the Detroit station dropped its music for news and talk. He left CKLW in 1983 to go to WCZY-FM, Detroit. Other CKLW "Hall of Fame" notables were Bud Davies, who left in 1967 to go to CKEY-590, Toronto, and Terry Knight, who defected in 1963 to WXYZ. Other CKLW people now faded into obscurity are Bill Gable, Johnny Williams, Charlie Van Dyke, and Super Max Kinkle. The Big 8 was almost a pirate station broadcasting into the United States. A whole generation of kids from Ontario to Pennsylvania and Connecticut grew up listening to the Big 8. The DJ's were devoutly loyal, and, above all, according to newspaper accounts, looked back upon their days at CKLW as the best time of their careers. Every DJ on the continent yearned to work behind the Big 8 microphone. The CKLW dj's had rock star followings.

"CKLW - 50,000 watts....sounds like a million!"  
(CKLW promo).

Unfortunately, CKLW's success bred difficulty for the station. CKLW and the CRTC constantly argued over Canadian content. And the government's influence, coupled with the maturing of FM radio caused the later downfall of the station



20 - 20 News

...Meanwhile, the Wayne County Sheriff had a stiff of his own to worry about. The man shot in the head, right through the blanket he was wrapped in.....

The grim reaper's sharpened scythe struck again today, as an unidentified boy about three or four years old was felled by hot lead on a target range. That young life was snuffed out when he rounded a hill and caught a bullet in the head...

(From a CKLW 20 - 20 Newscast...)

CKLW's blood and guts news casts set it aside from all of the other rock stations. Grant Hudson (now of WWJ), Byron McGregor, Dick Smythe, Randall Carlisle, and Lincoln Grey, among others, would often leave the news booth at 20 after or before the hour to a round of applause from their colleagues. 20 - 20 News was pure show business!! They all had big booming voices - the philosophy was to punch the listeners with the news, to get their attention. Jim Reese, air named Grant Hudson, an announcer at all news WWJ-950, remembers that the news delivery called for a bombastic style, and that the world will never see another station like CKLW.

While 20 - 20 News was sensational, CKLW was serious about news. The news room staffed 27 people at one time. The reporters and stringers patrolled the streets of Detroit and Windsor looking for news. On the scene remote broadcasts sprinkled 20 - 20 news. The Big 8 frequently broke into records with some major stories. CKLW broke to the world the arrest of Patti Hurst as a bank robber, and the Kent State University bloodbath, where the National Guard needlessly shot several students to death.

CKLW's news hot line offered weekly cash prizes for the best news tip, and \$100 for the biggest story of the year. The hot line rang constantly. Often Big 8 listeners called the hot line before reporting crime to the police. One woman, holding a robber at bay with a butcher knife, called CKLW before she called the police. Another listener, when a co-worker went berserk at Chrysler's Jefferson Avenue plant, called the hot line, holding the phone outside the booth so that the sound of gunfire could be heard. A CKLW promo: "When bullets buzz, buzz the Big 8".

The most insignificant crime story was magnified by the Big 8 newscasters, thesaurus in hand. Both the delivery and the vivid descriptions contributed to the sensationalism of the most mundane variety store stickup. Former CKLW news director Keith Radford, at the station from 1970 to 1982, noted in an interview that "We were always the station they used as a bad example in journalism school - they would pull a CKLW newscast apart as an example of how not to do news".

Even the newsmen amazed themselves. In the interview, Radford recalls sitting on a boat on the Detroit River with other staffers as Grant Hudson did his epic "Everyone is dead in Detroit" newscast, chronicling no less than ten murders in the Motor City the night before. Hudson's most unusual newscast was a self researched expose of frozen martians being kept on ice at the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, in Dayton, Ohio. Hudson later admitted that it seemed a bit far fetched, but received a report two weeks later that security guards were not allowed to check the contents of an exiting refrigerated truck at the gate. The truck was leaving Wright-Patterson destined to a high security air force base in Marietta, GA.

CKLW's colorful personalities enjoyed playing pranks on each other. Byron McGregor (real name - Gary Mack) and Gary Burbank competed to see who could play the worst prank. McGregor announced on 20 - 20 News that Gary Burbank's driveway had been blocked by 600 pounds of dripping wet horse manure delivered during the wee hours by unidentified pranksters. Burbank arranged for a young, pregnant female to arrive at the station with a policeman, claiming palimony while McGregor was on the air. These zany events added to the popularity of CKLW - where, as one ex-staffer reflects, there was little business direction, but everyone had a good time.

As FM radio syphoned listeners away from the Big 8, management became concerned about the station's image. The saga of bloated bodies, and blood and guts was dropped in 1978. The boss hits format was dumped in 1974, replaced by a more toned down middle of the road format. In 1977, adult contemporary replaced the MOR format, as the FM was taking over the rock.

Until 1972, CKLW's studios were at 825 Riverside Drive West, in a building shared with the FM and CKLW-TV, Channel 9. CKLW-TV had broadcast on Channel 9 since 1953. CKLW Radio and TV were bought by Baton Broadcasting. Since that time, the radio has been sold several times. Also,

in 1970, the CRTC agreed to a five year CBC takeover of the television station. In 1972, CKLW-TV, wanted the Riverside Drive building to itself. The radio moved to a beautiful new home at 1640 Ouellete Avenue, Windsor's main street, from where it broadcasts today.

The transmitter building, designed in the 1940's, is a huge two level 12000 square foot structure at the transmitter site. It houses the 50 kw Harris MW 50 transmitter plus the RCA 5F backup and an old RCA 50 F unit. The building provided living quarters for people who at one time attended the transmitter.

CKLW-FM, a 100,000 watt station has aired country music and easy listening formats over the years. Today it is CKMR ("More 94") airing oldies.

CKLW receives many DX reports from Norway, Britain, and the northern US and Canada. An abundance of reports comes from Finland, Sweden, and Lapland. CKLW's signal in the southern part of the US receives interference from Trans-World Radio, 800 khz, Bonaire, and the Scandinavian DX'ers must overcome interference from a million watt station at 801 khz in Bellingrad.

CKLW's U-4 signal must protect CJAD-800, Montreal, CJBQ-800, Belleville, ON, and various US stations. The primary null extends up Highway 401, toward London, ON.

The End of the Big 8

FM, the maturing of the generation which grew up listening to the Big 8, and increased pressure on Canadian content by the CRTC accelerated the decline of CKLW as an international institution. Labor problems contributed, too, as, in stages, the payroll was trimmed from 97 to 20 people.

In 1977 a new automated transmitter resulted in the release of a lot of technical people. The resulting strike lasted for a year and a half. In the latter 1970's, DJ Dick Purtan (one of the highest paid personalities in North American radio) kept the ratings up.

Meanwhile CKLW FM experimented with country music. By the fall of 1983, Purtan moved to WCZY-FM (95.5), and CKLW's ratings plummeted and the station moved toward an adult music/news/sports/information format with Detroit Pistons basketball, telephone talk, and a morning news and information block - all in an effort to siphon off WJR's listeners. Ratings, however, went from 1.8 to .7 by Summer 1984.

In 1983, CKLW management tried to swap CKLW's format with the big band format of sister FM CKJY, but this move was denied by the CRTC, which had always been disenchanted by the stations' programming toward American audiences. News was mostly from the Detroit side of the river, as were commercials. Many commercials had the tag at the end "Not available in Canada".

After the CRTC denied the format switch, some former Big 8 rock jocks were kept on the payroll for production work, or weekend air shifts - all in preparation for the return of rock, on FM. A new 100,000 watt FM transmitter was installed, feeding a 700 foot high tower south of Windsor. The call was changed to CFXX. Billboards all over Detroit proclaimed "The Fox is coming!!" The plan was to drop the big bands at 3:00pm on April 6, 1984, without CRTC approval. But the owners changed their minds at the last minute, after seeing that the license of CJMP - Quebec City was taken away after that station changed formats without CRTC approval. CFXX did work out an arrangement with the agency so that they could broadcast "Fox" programming or four hours a day, from 7:00 to 9:00am and from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. Listeners were asked to write in with their support for a format change when the license renewal came up in July. Baton Broadcasting finally gave up and sold the stations for a bargain price.

When the new owners took over in the fall of 1984, they fired at least a third of the staff. The adult contemporary music, with almost non-existent ratings was replaced with the adult standard "Music of Your Life". A victim of the 1984 purge was Rosalie Trombley, unceremoniously dumped after 21 years of faithful service to CKLW. How the mighty fell! The once infallible Rosalie bitterly took her collection of over 200 gold and platinum records which lined the walls of her office, when she was summarily evicted from her Ouellete Avenue quarters.

CKLW - AM Program Director Dave Shafer recalls the days when the station sent a driver around to pick up Mary, Florence, and Diane to convey them to record hops. This trio began its brilliant career



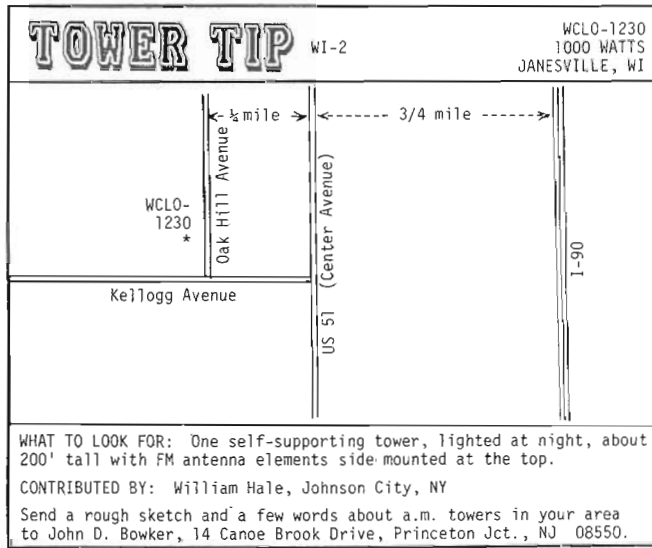
at CKLW record hops, and today is known worldwide as "The Supremes". Dave also laments that the station declined from a peak 28% share to .7% when the rock format hit bottom. While the listeners became more sophisticated, the format did not.

The new owner adjusted the FM big band and instrumental format to a typical easy listening format and changed the call to CKEZ "EZ-94-FM". On AM, the sports and information programs were dropped and were replaced by Al Ham's Music of Your Life, extremely popular at CJCL-1430, Toronto. The CKLW ratings did increase, but CKEZ garnered few listeners. The Big 8 officially died on April 6, 1984, the day that MYL began to air.

Today, CKEZ is "More 94", carrying an oldies format, under the call CKMR, and CKLW still airs adult standards. CKLW has a small (2.2% share) but loyal audience, consisting primarily of middle aged and middle to upper income adults. The MYL is augmented by Larry King at night, and both Notre Dame and NFL football broadcasts. CKLW presently has no network ties, and maintains a tiny news staff, not even a vestige of the 25 plus staff of the golden years. The contemporary CKLW is basically a music station.

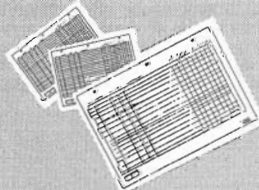
Alas, the Big 8, 20 - 20 News, the 16 hits per hour, and Rosalie Trombley are but colorful lore in an industry which is becoming devoid of imagination and fun. As Tom Shannon said from Buffalo in an interview "CKLW was just a well oiled machine", and Pat Holiday, who worked behind the Big 8 microphone for years said "The Big 8 will never be duplicated again!" And based upon the sterile programming heard on radio today, He is probably correct.

The Big 8 Station Profile has come to you with the help of Wally Dowhan, CKLW CE, Dave Shafer, CKLW PD, Julien and Martha Wolfe, various Windsor Star clippings, Fred Vobbe, and through notes supplied by NRC member Jim Nahirniak of Warren, Michigan. Thank you, all, for your help in making this profile possible. The verification bearing the coverage map is from the editor's collection. He verified CKLW in Chalfont, Bucks County, PA, in 1980.



## Logsheets - By Frequency

110 sheets, 25 entries possible per sheet with space available to add your own columns. Punched for three-ring binders, full-size 8.5 x 11 inches, on heavy paper. US\$5.00 (25 sheets for US\$1.25). Order from the Pub Center.



# WKBN first to carry live coverage in 1926

By John Kovach

## Vindicator sports staff

Did you know that WKBN was the first radio station in Youngstown to broadcast a play-by-play description of a live sports event.

That milestone, which incidentally was sponsored by the Youngstown Vindicator, took place on Thanksgiving day in 1926 when WKBN, then only about a month in existence, aired the Rayen-South high school football game from Rayen Stadium that was witnessed by 25,000 spectators.

Those are just a few of the fascinating facts about local radio lore provided by the now-retired Stephen Grcevich in his "Study of the Developing of Broadcasting in Youngstown prior to 1928." The manuscript, which was Grcevich's thesis for his master's degree from Kent State University in the late 1960s, has become a valuable piece of local memorabilia. Grcevich served as director of telecommunications at Youngstown State for 18 years, and helped to launch radio station WYSU-FM. He also founded WKTL radio in Struthers and was one of the original incorporators of public-television Channels 45 and 49.

Grcevich pointed out that WKBN, which went on the air in September of 1926, managed to set the local sports-broadcasting precedent even though it wasn't the first Youngstown radio station — but the fourth. The first was station WMC in 1922, which was owned by Wayne Shaffer who then was the first radio column writer for *The Vindicator*. WMC, which lasted for about a year, did give the sports scores at night on a regular basis.

WMC was followed by station WAAY also in 1922, which was owned by the Yahrling Rayner Piano Co. WAAY, which stayed on the air until June of 1923, broadcast sports scores every night at 5:45 and 7:25. The third local radio station was WDBF, owned by Robert Phillips who had worked for WAAY. WDBF, which went out of business in 1925, also gave sports scores like WAAY.

"The reason they went out of business was because it was expensive and time consuming and there were no commercials to fund it," said Grcevich of the demises of the three early stations. "They were using their own money."

WKBN, which was founded by Warren Williamson III and his partner, Creed Chorpensing, also enjoyed two other local-radio sports precedents. It was the first in Youngstown to broadcast a basket-

ball game — a doubleheader in the YMCA Sunday School League between Coitsville Presbyterian and St. Luke's Lutheran, and Everybody's Bible School and Epworth Methodist. And it was the first to air a Youngstown College (now Youngstown State) basketball game, which occurred in January of 1928 when the early Penguins played the Youngstown Patricians at the local YMCA gym.

"That game was broadcast because there was tremendous interest in it, especially in the outlying areas, for people who couldn't see the ball game," said Grcevich of the college contest. "One of the listeners was 1,000 miles from the action. The station received a card from the listener in Cocoa, Fla., who said he heard the first half on the radio."

Grcevich believes this long-distance broadcasting feat to Florida was possible because there were so few stations on the air at that time, meaning fewer transmissions to interrupt the WKBN signals.

## Williamson recalls broadcast

Williamson III, now 90 and retired from WKBN, recalled that first football broadcast which occurred when the station still was operating out of his living room on Aubbundale Avenue. "We were looking for programming and there was a lot of interest in the South game," explained Williamson, who said he and Chorpensing, a pair of radio-repair men, started the station in the hope it could help their company which was called Radio Electric service Inc.

Williamson remembered that he moved his small 7 1/2-watt transmitter and its power-supplying DC rectifier from his home to Rayen School, and set up the equipment in the second-floor hallway, just East of the stands. "We strung a wire to the outside the building and that [served as] the transmitter that we transmitted with," recalled Williamson, who admitted his crew ran into a problem with the wire that extended from the transmitter.

He said the wire, which ran down the side of the building to the microphones of the two broadcasters, who strolled the sidelines while broadcasting the game, "would pick up some of the energy for the broadcast [from the transmitter] and it didn't help the quality of the voice. It picked up some of the energy coming out the antenna. The quality of the sound was not that good," Williamson conceded.

And who were the play-by-play announcers? Arthur Brock did the first half and yes — Williamson — aired the second half. "I was on the field. Creed Chorpensing was running the transmitter," recalled Williamson, who said the fans paid small heed to the history he was making. "I don't think they paid too much attention. We just walked back and forth, talking into the 'mike.'"

Grcevich claimed that WKBN "got power from a light socket" for the broadcast and that the crew "had some problems in the variations of the power supply after they plugged into the light socket for power." He also noted that "the announcers had some trouble hearing themselves over the noise of the crowd."

But Grcevich said WKBN developed an even bigger problem during the broadcast. When Rayen scored its first touchdown, the pent-up fans tried to pull the microphone away from an announcer. In the ensuing struggle, the wire disconnected from the microphone and the broadcast was interrupted temporarily.

Grcevich said that in October of 1927, WKBN began regular broadcasts of Saturday afternoon football games. And in November of that year, the late Frank "Doc" Ward, former sports editor of *The Vindicator*, made his debut as a play-by-play announcer with the Chaney-East game.

"He did a lot of games," said Grcevich of Ward. "From what I can gather, he had a tremendous voice for radio and he knew the teams and the players and he did a superb job of covering the action on the field. And he knew how to handle the microphone."

## The Youngstown Vindicator via Jerry Starr

Need to re-new? Expired? The mailing label will tell you.





# Bandscans

**Chris Cuomo**  
670 Third Avenue  
Verona, PA 15147-1349

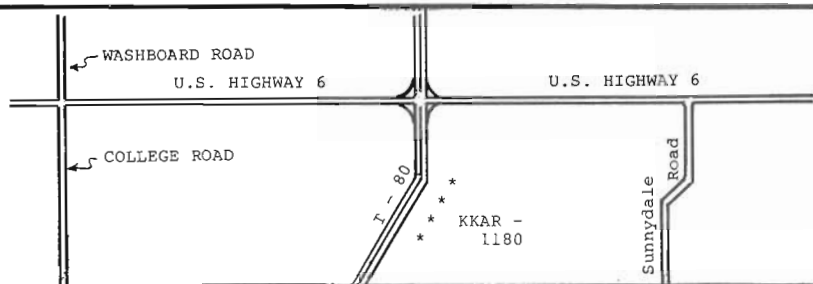
Audible stations from a DX'er's location at given times.

CHRIS HAMBL Y	927	3UZ	MELBOUNRE	5
Box Hill North, Vic.	945	3B0	Bendigo	5
Australia	983	5SE	Mt Gambier	2
Kenwood R-2000 m,	2RG	Griffith		2
Sanserino Loop	981	3HA	Hamilton	
Various times (day)	1008	7EX	Launceston, Tas	3
531 3GG WARRAGUL	5	1071	3CV Maryborough	4
540 7SD Scottsdale, Tas	5	1089	3WH Horsham	4
549 2CR Orange, NSW	3	1098	7LA Launceston, Tas	3
558 7BU Burnie, Tas.	5	1134	3CS Colac	5
567 2BH Broken Hill, NSW	1	1179	3RPH MELBOURNE	5
585 7ZL Hobart, Tas	4	1224	3EA MELBOURNE	5
594 3WV Horsham	5	1260	3SR Shepparton	4
621 3AR MELBOURNE	5	1276	3AW MELBOURNE	5
675 2CO Albury, NSW	4	1314	3BA Ballarat	4
711 7NT Launceston, Tas	5	1332	3SH Swan Hill	2
729 5CL Adelaide, SA	1	1377	3MP MELBOURNE	5
774 3LO MELBOURNE	5	1422	3XY MELBOURNE	5
826 3GI Sale	5	1503	3AK MELBOURNE	5
882 3YB Warrnambool	5	1593	3PB MELBOURNE	5
900 7AD Davenport, Tas	5	1602	3WL Warrnambool	2

## TOWER TIP

NB-1

KKAR - 1180  
5 KW-D; 1 KW-N  
BELLEVUE, NEBRASKA



WHAT TO LOOK FOR: Four guyed towers with no lights south of Interchange 8 off I-80 in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

SUBMITTED BY: RICK DAU, Oakland, Iowa

Send information about a.m. broadcast towers in your area to John D. Bowker, 14 Canoe Brook Drive, Princeton Jct., NJ 08550. Include a simple map of the nearby highways and landmarks. Tell how many towers, how they are laid out, and any other information that will help in spotting each station.

## Problems, problems?

We can't solve all your woes, but we can solve your DX News problems. Torn, soiled, partially-printed, MIA, or worst of all, delivered in a plastic baggie by the USPS? No need to return the copy - just send a postcard to NRC - 2840 SE Illinois Ave. - Topeka, KS 66605, and a replacement copy will be mailed free. Missing back issue? Replacement copies from Vol. 56 on, to NRC members only, are sent for the cost of first-class postage (25¢ for a 24-pager, 45¢ for a 48-pager). Quantities of 25 may be sent book rate for \$1.25.

See? No problem!

# Musings

of the Members

**Dave Schmidt**  
P. O. Box 11502  
Wilmington, DE 19850  
Times are local per Muse.

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.

### BRUCE CONTI - 34 KESSLER FARM DR. - NASHUA, NH 03063

During a recent DX session, I caught a news report on CBC radio that there will be major cut-backs in CBC service due to budget problems. This will result in some communities losing local CBC service. Does this mean that some radio stations will go silent? 12/15 DX: WQSI-820 MD was in good w/Sat. News Net., "In Libertytown, they spell country 82-0" ID @ 1:05A and CW music. WMCA-570 NY noted w/news from Trinidad & Tobago, ad for Tn'T grocery store and ragga music at 8:30P. An UNID station was u/WMCA w/EE & FF pop music, possibly CJEM as it's the only FFC listed in the log on 570. Nothing but UNID's on 600. One was o/u others w/soccer in SS. Another came in perfect for possible ID at 9P but there was no ID. Only dead air, followed by more of sat. oldies program w/1-800-LIVE-GOLD request line. 12/16 WAKR-1590 OH was noted w/Rock, Roll & Remember promo at 12:05A u/WQW. Local WSMN was off. CJRS-1510 QC was in strong w/Le Weekend Report promo at 12:35A o/WSSH. My UNID on 700 is from Montego Bay, Jamaica, heard w/tele-talk show and female anc'r w/heavy Caribbean English accent at 1:20A. Jamaica-700 also noted briefly at top of hour mentioning frequencies in megahertz. CJAD-800 QC came in xint o/CKLW w/talk, news at 2A. 12/17 WOR-710 NY was off this AM leaving CKVM and Radio Rebelde-Cuba. A check of 600 found the same SS as on 710. Informe Rebelde news headlines were heard at 12:49A as I listened to 600 on the R70 & 710 on the DX400. CBL-740 ON s/off noted at 1:11A, leaving a weak UNID SS station. WHCU-870 NY was momentarily on top for an ID w/Sat. Oldies at 1:58A. WNJR-1430 NJ busted thru w/Heatwave's 'Always & Forever' classic soul at 11:07P, otherwise u/WENE NY. 73's

### FRANK WHEELER - 6589 WATTSBURG RD. - ERIE, PA 16509

It has been quite a while since I've sent a report to Musings, as I haven't had anything to report. 12/30 I will have been DXing on the ECB for 60 years! I can't believe it! I'm 77, I can't believe this either! I've enjoyed those years of DX'ing. My farthest received has been IYA, New Zealand, which I received 18 times. I also won a prize from a Mexican station for having the farthest report, they sent me a Zircon wedding & engagement ring. I have also won a few DX contests, which I enjoyed. I have used a 6 tube (my 1st radio) Silvertone (Sears), a 9 tube and 12 tube silvertone, S38 Halicrafters, an 8 tube Grunow, a Westinghouse all wave cabinet radio. I'm still using my S40B Halicrafters and Realistic DX160, the S40B is about 40+ years old. Antennas I have used are a LW about 400' long, a 40' long wire, an SML, and for the last 25 years, a 175' longwire which is now lying on the ground as a large dirt hauling truck tore it down from a neighbors house where it was fastened. I have it stretched along the ground, you'd be surprised how good it works for SW & BCB. There aren't to many of us old timers left. May you & your family have the best year ever in 91, as well as the NRC! Good DX'ing! (Thanks for your fine report & comments, Frank, and the best to you, also!-DWS)

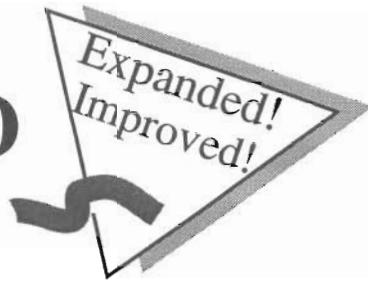
### GERRY THOMAS - 3635 CHASTAIN WAY - PENSACOLA, FL 32504

The AM radio scene in Pensacola changed last week with the reactivation of 980 khz by new station, WRNE, a black format station. WBOP, also a black station, formerly occupied the freq. for many years only to move to 1230 khz a couple of years ago where it only last a year before going silent. WFXP took over 980 as a news/talk outlet, later a sat. oldies station, before also going silent. New WRNE ID's as 'Rhythm 9-80' and plays black and gospel music 24 hours a day. Also locally, old timer WCOA-1370 has apparently been sold to a concern out of LA which can only be an improvement, hopefully, because during the last few years the call letters, WKKK would have been more descriptive given WCOA's far right-wing emphasis. On technical matters, I happen to be a fan of preselectors in communication receivers, I really don't mind have to tweak and extra knob while DXing. With the advent of the newer scanning/memory receivers, preselectors have gone by the wayside (at least until Digital front-end filtering/matching comes along; Collins has been working on digital RF & IF filtering for the past few years, I hear). This demise of the preselector has placed greater emphasis on things like dynamic range, inter-modulation distortion, etc. the past few years because the mixer & IF stages now stand naked to a whole swath of potentially powerful signals pouring through the front end (I still routinely receive better copy of MW signals on my old Yaesu FRG7 (with its preselector) than I do with my R70 & R71A radios (with their broad front end approaches). I bring this up because I'm reminded of the oft-forgotten old antenna axiom that an antenna should only provide enough signal to raise the atmospheric noise (assuming the signal being sought is above atmospheric noise) above receiver input noise for optimum reception efficiency. In other words, using more antenna than you need can cause more damage than good (but gives the illusion of being 'good' by pushing the S-meter into the red). Using the RF gain control on many receivers is a waste of time since they are located after the 1st mixer and even the DX/local step attenuators in many radios are preceded by RF amp. circuits exposed to high signal levels. The only answer is a built-in receiver preselector or an outboard preselector or attenuator between the antenna and jack of the radio. With these thoughts in mind, a DXer has to decide whether today's receivers memory and scan functions are worth the price of in DXability, in my case, the older HQ180As, R390As and R7As are looking pretty good. The ideal situation is, of course, having one of each, a modern scanning receiver to scope the channels and an older, knob intensive radio to dig out the DX. That's it from here, 73's



# NRC FM RADIO LOG

## 1991 Edition



- \* Over 300 pages
- \* *Large* easy-to-read type
- \* 3-hole punched
- \* Popular 8 1/2" X 11" size

The Frequency section lists FM stations numerically for fast and complete station information.

The Call Letter section lists stations alphabetically so you can easily look up a station to determine frequency and station location.

The City/State section lists stations alphabetically by city for quick and easy reference.

Plenty of room is available for you to make your own personal notes.

Columns include:

Call Letters  
Location  
Antenna Height in feet  
Horizontal and Vertical Power  
Address  
Stereo Information  
Formats  
Networks  
Construction permit info

*Only*  
U.S. **\$16.95**  
Canada \$17.95<sup>us</sup>



**Yes!** Rush me \_\_\_\_\_ copies of the 1991 NRC FM Radio Log!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

For Credit Card Orders Include:  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Send Check or Money Order (Do NOT Send Cash) to: NRC Publications  
P.O. Box 164  
Mannsville, NY 13661-0164

## NATIONAL RADIO CLUB Inc. CREDIT CARD ORDERS

Short of cash? In a hurry? The National Radio Club, with the cooperation of a local business, accepts VISA/Mastercard credit card orders. You may use your credit card for:

NRC Products                      NRC Convention Registrations  
NRC Subscriptions                NRC Convention Auction Items

### To Place Credit Card Orders

**By Phone.** (608) 423-4159 7 - 11 pm Eastern Local Time. NO collect calls will be accepted. Calling outside this time period will not necessarily guarantee you that someone will take your call in person. And no, we cannot return calls to take your order.

**By Mail.** When ordering NRC Products or Subscriptions send your credit card order to NRC, Box 24, Cambridge, WI 53523-0024. This will ensure timely processing of your credit card order.

### Credit Card Information

We need your card type (Visa/Mastercard), card number, expiration date, name as it appears on the card, and evening telephone number (in case we have a question or two).

**Wisconsin Residents MUST add the appropriate state/county sales taxes.**

CREDIT CARD SUPPLEMENT FORM TO THE ORDER/SUBSCRIPTION FORM

MasterCard  VISA

CARD ACCOUNT NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_ EVENING PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

NAME AS IT APPEARS ON CARD \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

Send this along with your order/subscription to:

National Radio Club  
P.O. Box 24  
Cambridge, WI 53523-0024

This information remains confidential and will be used only for the purpose of processing your order/subscription.

## The NRC is growing - and you can help.

More members in the NRC means a larger *DX News* ... and more features and services for all members. You can help your club grow: just send the names and addresses of potential club members to the NRC - P. O. Box 5711 - Topeka, KS 66605 and we'll send them a current copy of *DX News*. Spread the word - the National Radio Club is on the grow!