

W O U I

THE FIRST UNIVERSITY FM STATION IN OHIO—88.1 Mc

OHIO UNIVERSITY
ATHENS, OHIO
March 18, 1953

Dear Mr. Thomas;

We were pleased to get your letter, indicating reception on March 13, 1953. From your description, you definitely had WOUI-AM.

WOUI-AM is not a regularly licensed broadcast station, but operates carrier current, however, the call letters and frequency are on file with the FCC. WOUI-AM is the successor to the old WOBU mentioned in your letter, but over this period, the equipment has been changed considerably. The present station is operated in conjunction with our 10 watt educational FM station, both stations being fed from our new studios in the speech building.

The programming on the two stations is identical with the exception of the 6:30-8:00 PM period when AM carries different programs. The present operating schedule is as follows: Monday through Friday 12-1:00 pm., and 4-11:00 pm. Occasionally week end events are covered, such as ball games.

The AM transmitter has a single 807 class C plate modulated final, 16 watts input. This feeds a twisted pair transmission line which connects to the various buildings to be served by the station. With the exception of a few hundred feet, the entire transmission line, which is about a mile and a half long, is underground running through the heating tunnel system of the university. The transmission line serves the purpose of getting the RF to each building where it is coupled into the secondary side of the power system.

The normal satisfactory range of coverage is restricted to within roughly a mile radius of the transmitter. QRM being the limiting factor. This is checked regularly by a good automobile radio.

The biggest problem with this carrier current system is to get the right amount of RF in the right place. All too frequently it gets radiated from the transmission line rather than fed into the building. We feel however, that our radiation problem of the past has been solved with the use of the twisted pair transmission line.


We have reports of having been heard in Colorado and Minnesota. These reports came during a period when we were using a single wire transmission line.

The FM station is now operating on 91.5 mc. This change was made about a year ago in order to keep local television fans happy. The antenna is a ring type with a gain of 0.8, and rather nondirectional horizontally. The maximum reported distance was from Chillicothe, Ohio, this report was never definitely conformed. A confirmed report has been made from East Liverpool, Ohio. The signal was weak but listenable.

The only place we know that should be able to give you a more or less complete listing of all "campus stations", is the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System.

Thanking you for your letter and comments,

Sincerely yours



J. Daniel Bishop
Chief Engineer