

# The Worldwide TV-FM DX Association

Serving the VHF-UHF Enthusiast



## VHF-UHF DIGEST

E-ZINE VERSION

MAY 2003

The VHF-UHF Digest is the official publication of the Worldwide TV-FM DX Association dedicated to the observation and study of the propagation of long distance television and FM broadcasting signals at VHF and UHF. The WTFDA is governed by a board of directors: TOM BRYANT, GREG CONIGLIO, BRUCE HALL, DAVE JANOWIAK AND MIKE BUGAJ.



Finally! For those of you online with an email address, we now offer a quick, convenient and secure way to join or renew your membership in the WTFDA from our page at:

<http://fmdx.usclargo.com/join.html>

Dues are \$25 if paid from your Paypal account. But of course you can always renew by check or money order for the usual price of just \$24. Either way, it's still a bargain!

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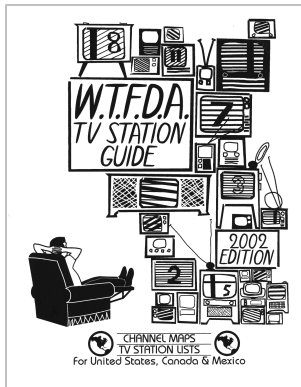
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Just in time for skip season, we have a couple of interesting articles for you. The first one concerns DXing from apartment and high rises. It's a reprint but it's still good.

The second is a new project from James Gould. If you have twenty feet of RG6 coax plus some extra coax for lead in, James invites you to experiment with his E skip anti-antenna. It's simple and should yield some great results. Check out the traveling wave antenna project on page 26.

A very recent note from Bill Dvorak reports of IBOC beginning on Chicago's WVAZ 102.7 and WNUA 95.5. FM DXers may notice it.



### The WTFDA TV STATION GUIDE

Start your new year with the most comprehensive listing off North American Television stations in print! Just \$23 US will get you one. Mail your check or money order today. Make it payable

to Dave Janowiak and mail it to John Ebeling, 9209 Vincent Avenue S., Bloomington, MN 55431-2157. Remember, there won't be a station guide for 2003 so get your copy now for the 2003 DX season before they're out of print.

## WTFDA CONVENTION 2003!



JULY, 11, 12, 13 IN BATAVIA, NY

Our hotel will be the Days Inn of Batavia. Rates are \$72/night.

Batavia-Days Inn, 200 Oak St., Batavia, NY 14020 US

Phone: 585-343-6000 Fax: 585-343-5322

EASY ACCESS TO I-90 <http://www.the.daysinn.com/batavia04801>



# The Mailbox

P.O. Box 501, Somersville, CT USA 06072  
MIKE BUGAJ MBUGAJ@SNET.NET

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## MAY 2003

Well, the time does fly! The month of April is in the can and here we are just waiting for some E-skip. This is the month! Sure you might see a few reports of Es in late April in the south and southwestern United States (and possibly New Jersey), but DXers in the northern states start to get serious about Es in the month of May.

In mid-April Rick Lewis and Kevin Redding in the Phoenix reported a couple of TV Es sessions and Rick Shaftan up in the Garden State noted WPBT-2 one morning. In May, however, almost everyone should be seeing and hearing E skip at their location. Make sure you are ready for it. Subscribe to the WTFDA reflector if you haven't already. Make sure your antennas are in good shape, the coax is good and your TV isn't on the verge of dying. We are going to get busy.

## MEMBERS AND MORE

This month we'd like to welcome Robert Steadman to the WTFDA. Robert lives in Milwaukee and our Milwaukee area members will be glad to have you with them. Robert signed up using Paypal.

This time around we have renewals from **Mike Roth**(CT), **Milton C. Bay**(KY), **Frank Merrill**(MI), **Paul Frochlich**(WI), **Pat Dyer**(TX), **Gus Mancuso**(MD), **Neil Griffin**(GA), **Bill Dvorak**(WI), **Paul Crego**(NY), **Winston Smith**(Jamaica), **David Cox**(AL), **Steve Naetzker**(CA), **Gary Hickerson**(AR) and **Eric Fader**(NY). Thank you everybody for hanging around the place another year!

Here's a note from **Steve Branch** that says "I received the Hauppauge WinTV-D card for Christmas; I would highly recommend it to anyone. I've connected CATV along with one of those infamous RS Amplified loops to the card. The RS loop pulls in the 4 local digital signals with no problems. Local DTVs on the air include WAND-DT 18 (350kw prime-time only), WBUI-DT 22 (125kw full-time), WICD-DT

41 (2kw full-time), and WCIA-DT 48 (1.28kw full-time. Only WAND-DT is operating at full power and they are prime-time only." I agree with Steve that the least expensive way to get into the DTV DXing arena is to use the Hauppauge card. The DTV card gets the job done.

**Frank Merrill** writes that he will not be in Batavia this year. Frank writes "I will not be in Batavia. I refuse to travel at a time of year that all my locals might be blasting in at 650 miles (not to mention that July is just plain miserable for traveling)." Possibly so, Frank, but car air-conditioning is great for eliminating the misery.

**Tim McVey** mentioned on the WTFDA reflector that **Gus Mancuso** came over to visit and that Tim took him over to the computer and showed Gus some of our WTFDA member websites. Gus couldn't believe just how much DX material was available on the internet.

I'll say again that in my opinion the internet has been great to the WTFDA. We have our own website hosted by Tim and we have members (including myself) who run our own websites and give WTFDA any possible plugs we can. The WTFDA reflector has undoubtedly become the number one perk of WTFDA members and one of the reasons we get new people into the club (and oldsters who once were members, left, found us again and rejoined.) And now Paypal is making it easier for members to renew and for new people to try us for a year. To whoever invented the internet: THANK YOU!

## HOW I STARTED DXING

Once again our semi-irregular, semi-transparent series on how people like you began your dxing careers. This one is by **Adam Rivers**, so open up a bag of Tostitos and some salsa and munch while you read. Adam begins "I started DXing by chance. I'm really one of the last people that you'd think would be a DXer, but I am. DXing has been concurrent with my growing interest in radio and my ever-present interest in CHR/Pop music.

But how I really started DXing is in the summers when I was 6 or 7. I had my Sony boombox and played around with it a lot, flipping around between the then-93HYN-FM (Top 40), 94.7 WMAS (AC), Kiss 95.7 (Top 40), 96.5 TIC-FM (Hot AC), then-99.3 HMP-FM (Top 40), KC 101 (Top 40), and WHCN (Rock). I've since progressed to many different boomboxes and listen nearly exclusively to WKSS-FM, Kiss 95.7. I became mesmerized (see the references to music?) by the ability that every morning and every night I could listen to WALK 97.5 and 106.1 BLI from Long Island, along at other times with stations from other places, but I never kept track. I was never quite sure why I was hearing it either. On a family vacation in 1998 in Myrtle Beach, SC, I expressed more interest in the hobby as I seemed to hear a lot of stations from up to 350 miles away when I was on the beach. My interest in DX really exploded in 1999 when I was happening to be playing around with a radio during a thunderstorm. Somewhere on tape I have the experience, as I heard Ricky Martin's "Livin' La Vida Loca" and then the traffic for Memphis. I had no clue what was up, and decided this time I wanted to investigate and see how this stuff all happened. I discovered I heard WMC-99.7 from Memphis, TN- my first "eskip" catch. That's when I started to get more into DXing.

In 2001, I was introduced to the WTFDA. I've been a member since and have made improvements to my DX equipment due to the graciousness of Mike Bugaj and Bill Nollman, while actively DXing more. I'm always checking out the bands when I have time- making time around friends, school, baseball, and basketball.

A lot of my friends don't understand the hobby nor do they have a clue about it. People frequently ask me why I do it, what is my obsession with radio? I don't know, but it's a big part of my life. I'll always be a Dixer- even if I have to DX when I'm a DJ on the radio.

Radio is an interesting thing. I've Dxed in school- such as the 6/13/02 Eskip opening in my Math class using my Panasonic Walkman and on top of mountains such as Mt. Greylock in MA and Beech Mountain in NC. I've discovered a lot about how radio signals work. Concurrently I've discovered a lot about the business of radio and music and stuff like that by making a few friends at a local radio station. DXing is just one of the huge fields of radio- there's a lot that goes on. My teacher and my friends were amazed during our electricity unit in science how much I knew about radio waves (but nothing else- I know 3 things- Radio/ Music, US History, and Sports) . They have no clue what I'm talking about when I say "eskip", "tropo" or "meteor scatter", and one of my best friends refers to it as "Let's go DXing", mocking me for my weird interest (hey, there's a lot I mock him for too).

All in all this entire story comes together and makes one great one that I'll be able to look back at one day. "

## **MORE ABOUT FM ANTENNAS**

The article on FM antennas that appeared last month prompted an email from **Bill Black** in the DC area. Bill mentioned that the Radio Shack 15-2163 is the same antenna as the Antennacraft FM6. A spec sheet for that antenna can be found at <http://antennacraft-tdp.com/pdfs/FM6.pdf>.

I have a spec sheet for the FM6. The gain figure quoted here is 6.6db on FM with a front to back ratio of 18.9db. This is hardly the f/b ratio you'd get on an APS antenna, but surely better than a dipole. Boom length on this antenna is 70" and it weighs about 4lbs.

Bill mentions a difference between the APS9 and the APS9B (the APS9 was pictured in the article). The APS9 has 8 elements; the APS 9b has 9 elements. Here's a quote from Ed Hanlon, designer of the APS9b, who said "I added another element [to the APS-9]. Now this doesn't always work...but I toyed more with the APS9A. At the expense of very little gain, which nobody is going to notice anyway, the patterns improved dramatically."

## **IBOC**

Here's more information on a couple of stations here in the northeast that are using IBOC. **Keith McGinnis** is having a tough time trying to DX the adjacent channels of 93.7. WQSX, Star 93.7, recently began broadcasting in IBOC digital with the result that both adjacent channels are full of white noise. Steve Solomon noticed this noise out on the Cape where it interferes with his local WDVT 93.5.

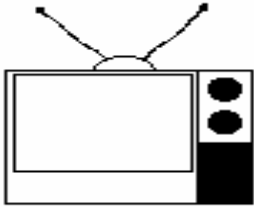
WNEW 102.7 New York very recently changed format to "*Blink 102.7*" and turned on the IBOC again. **Joe Fela** noticed a mild form of it at first, but lately the station seems to have cranked it up. Again, this is white noise and Joe is finding it hard to hear WRFY on 102.5.

One more IBOC user we know about is in Florida. It's WUSF 89.7 in Tampa. This station will skip out in the summer and be heard all over much of North America. DXers will be interested to know how well it is received this year and how good (or bad) the sidebands will appear.

## **FM ATLAS ADVANCE ORDERS!**

Bruce Elving's FM Atlas #19 is ready! You can order by American Express Card at 1-800-605-2219 or send \$23 to FM Atlas, P.O. Box 336, Esko, MN, 55733-9413. Do it NOW!

That's it! See you all next month. -Mike



# TV NEWS

Doug Smith W9WI  
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Pleasant View, TN 37146-8098  
w9wi@w9wi.com

## May 2003

### Abbreviations:

# License to cover (for changes or new station)  
**AF** Applied For (a new station)  
**aux** Auxiliary (backup) transmitter  
**CC** Call Change  
**CL** City-of-license change  
**DE** Station deleted  
**FC** Programming ("format") change  
**GA** Granted Amendment (to table of channel allotments)  
**NO** Not on the air  
**NS** New station granted permit  
**NW** New station on the air

**PA** Proposed Amendment (to table of channel allotments)  
**PC** Power (and/or tower height) change on the air  
**PG** Power change granted  
**PR** Power change requested  
**QC** Channel ("frequency") change on the air  
**QG** Channel change granted  
**QR** Channel change requested  
**RA** Returned to the air  
**ROA** Request of applicant  
**SI** Off the air (silent)  
**STA** Special Temporary Authorization  
**XC** Transmitter site change on the air  
**XG** Transmitter site change granted  
**XR** Transmitter site change requested

### News:



#### Canada:

##### Alberta:

Calgary 23 CKRD-TV-3 AF 652.2kw  
 Calgary 38 new AF 340kw  
 Coronation 10 CKRD-TV-1 FC to CBC  
 Edmonton 23 CKRD-TV-2 AF 1162.1kw  
 Edmonton 56 new AF 810kw  
 Fort Chipewyan 10 CBXBTVFC to CBXT  
 Lake Louise 12 CBRT-4 FC to CBRT  
 Red Deer 2 CITV-TV-1QR from ch. 10; 15.93kw; FC to CBC  
 Red Deer 6 CKRD-TV FC to "CH" independent  
 Red Deer 58 new AF 720kw

##### Ontario:

Fort Hope 12 CBLHT FC to CBLT  
 London 14 CITS-TV-2 AF 7.7kw  
 London 20 CJMT-TV-1 AF 18.8kw  
 Ottawa 14 CITS-TV-1 AF 109kw  
 Ottawa 14 CJMT-TV-1 AF 435kw  
 Temagami 15 CBCQ-TV-1 FC to CBLT



#### USA:

##### Alabama:

Bessemer 17 WDBB PC# >2240kw/675m, 33-28-51/87-24-03  
 Birmingham 46 W51BY QC# from ch. 51, 15.1kw, 33-29-04/86-48-25  
 Moundville 3 WDVZ-CA PR<1.6kw, 33-09-36/87-30-55, CL from Greensboro  
 Hamilton 46 W46DF NW# 11.8kw, 34-05-03/87-58-49  
 Huntsville 54 WZDX PG>2400kw/518m,

Jasper 34-44-12/86-31-59  
 Montgomery 55 W55BJ XC# 33-50-42/87-18-26  
 14 WSFA-DT QG from ch. 57, 600kw/530m  
 Scottsboro 27 W64BJ QR from ch. 64, 11.1kw

##### Alaska:

Anchorage 38 K25FM QR dismissed ROA  
 Anchorage 45 K27FJ QR dismissed ROA  
 Fairbanks 35 K22EY QR dismissed ROA  
 Fairbanks 39 K24EG QR dismissed ROA  
 Fairbanks 41 K26EL QR dismissed ROA  
 Fairbanks 43 K28ES QR dismissed ROA

##### Arizona:

Flagstaff 23 new-LP AF dismissed  
 Phoenix 31 K31DI PR dismissed ROA  
 Tucson 4 KVOA PC#>35kw/1092m  
 Tucson 14 KQBN-LP PR<9.3kw, 32-14-56/111-06-59  
 Tucson 32 KOLD-DT PG 108kw/1123m, 32-24-56/110-42-50

##### Arkansas:

Springdale 4 K15DR QC# from ch. 15, 3kw  
 Springdale 57 KSBNTV PC# 182kw/98m

##### California:

Chico 38 K27HD QR from ch. 27, 10.3kw, 39-27-46/121-34-49  
 Corona 39 KVEA-DT PG>912m, 34-12-48/118-03-41  
 Corona 52 KVEA PC# 2510kw/907m, 34-12-48/118-03-41  
 Fresno 33 KSDI-LP QC# from ch. 34, 21.1kw  
 Fresno 55 KMSG-LP PC#>46.6kw  
 Indio 33 KDFX-LP QC# from ch. 40, 9.6kw, 33-51-58/116-26-02  
 Los Angeles 27 KNLA-LP QR from ch. 68, 9kw  
 Los Angeles 34 KMEX-TV PC#>2291kw/956m  
 Los Angeles 59 KCET-DT PG>340kw  
 Oceanside 33 KZDF-LP CC from K33FZ

|                     |            |   |  |                   |  |
|---------------------|------------|---|--|-------------------|--|
| Paso Robles         | 17 K17GD   | QC# from K21EX,<br>11.6kw   |  |                   | 26-47-08/81-47-40<br>PC#>74.4kw  |
| Red Bluff           | 3 KMCA-LP  | QR from ch. 49  |  | Naples            | 56 W56DW   |
| Red Bluff           | 27 K27HC   | PR>67kw,<br>39-57-45/121-42-40  |  | Panama City       | 10 W36BU   |
| Redlands            | 45 KLAU-LP | QC from ch. 66,<br>43.7kw, 34-13-<br>37/118-03-57 on<br>Mt. Wilson      |  | Tallahassee       | 45 WVUP-CA   |
| R. Palos Verdes     | 44 KXLA    | PG>2340kw/952m,<br>34-13-35/118-03-58                                   |  | W Palm Beach      | 57 WBWP-LPPR   |
| Sacramento          | 6 KVIE     | PC#<550m  |  |                   | QC# from ch. 17<br>>150kw,<br>26-45-42/80-04-42                        |
| Vista               | 26 K26FA   | PR>100w,<br>33-00-33/116-58-18  |  | <u>Georgia:</u>   |  |
|                     |            |   |  | <u>Athens</u>     | 12 WGTV-DT   |
| <u>Colorado:</u>    |            |   |  |                   | QG from ch. 22,<br>16kw/304m   |
| Avon                | 36 K36DB   | PC#<50w; CL from<br>Sweetwater Creek                                    |  | Atlanta           | 4 W20AU  |
| Boulder             | 14 KTFD-TV | CC from KTVJ  |  | Atlanta           | 22 WSKC-LP   |
| Denver              | 4 KCNC-TV  | PR<373m,<br>39-43-51/105-13-54  |  | Columbus          | 47 WTVM-DT   |
| Denver              | 28 K51AB   | QC# from ch. 51,<br>38.4kw,<br>39-54-48/105-17-33; CL<br>from Windcliff |  | Pelham            | 5 WABW-DT  |
| Denver              | 43 KDVT-LP | CC from KTFD-LP   |  |                   | QG from ch. 20,<br>3.8kw/474m,<br>30-40-13/83-56-26                    |
| Denver              | 45 K55AU   | QC# from ch. 55,<br>59.5kw,<br>39-54-48/105-17-33; CL<br>from Windcliff |  | <u>Hawaii:</u>    |  |
| Durango             | 15 KREZ-DT | NW# 46kw/90m  |  | Glenwood          | 16 KOIW-LP   |
| Fleming             | 56 K27AG   | QC# from ch. 27,<br>2.26kw,<br>40-35-28/103-02-23                       |  | Honolulu          | 31 KWHE-DT   |
| Grand Jctn.         | 4 KFQX     | PR>100kw/428m   |  |                   | QC# from ch. 22, 26kw,<br>19-29-33/155-06-22; CL<br>from Mountain View |
| Pleasant Valley     | 14 K49CP   | QC# from ch. 49,<br>40-30-35/102-06-51                                  |  |                   | PR>250kw/631m,<br>21-23-22/158-06-29<br>dismissed                      |
| Romeo               | 28 new-LP  | AF dismissed (so<br>why were calls K28IB issued?!)                      |  | <u>Idaho:</u>     |  |
| Sterling            | 46 K46CY   | PC#>2.26kw  |  | Hailey            | 18 KSVX-LP   |
| Sterling            | 54 K25AF   | QC# from ch. 25,<br>2.26kw  |  |                   | PR<1.5kw, already<br>granted &<br>on the air                           |
| Sterling            | 58 K29AC   | QC# from ch. 29,<br>2.26kw  |  | Idaho Falls       | 20 950306KF  |
|                     |            |   |  | Sun Valley        | 5 KIDA   |
| <u>Connecticut:</u> |            |   |  |                   | PR>10.25kw/558m,<br>43-38-36/114-23-49,<br>already granted             |
| Hartford            | 3 WFSB     | PG<271m   |  | <u>Illinois:</u>  |  |
| Hartford            | 31 WTIC-DT | QR from ch. 5,<br>425kw/501m,<br>41-42-13/72-49-57                      |  | Peoria            | 57 WEEK-DT   |
|                     |            |   |  | Rochelle          | 8 W08DS  |
| <u>Delaware:</u>    |            |   |  |                   | PG<212m<br>PR>3kw,<br>41-55-16/88-59-48                                |
| Talleyville         | 53 W55BT   | QR from ch. 55,<br>18.1kw,<br>39-50-51/75-29-44                         |  | Rochelle          | 28 W28CO   |
|                     |            |   |  |                   | PR>99kw,<br>41-52-33/88-45-16  |
| <u>Florida:</u>     |            |   |  | <u>Indiana:</u>   |  |
| Fort Myers          | 31 WGPU-DT | NW# 50kw/276m   |  | Fort Wayne        | 40 WFWA-DT   |
| Jacksonville        | 19 WTEV-DT | NW#1000kw/291m,<br>30-16-51/81-34-12                                    |  | Indianapolis      | 6 WRTV   |
| Jacksonville        | 30 WAWS    | PC#>4000kw/307m,<br>30-16-51/81-34-12                                   |  | Indianapolis      | 21 WFYI-DT   |
| Jacksonville        | 32 WAWS-DT | NW#1000kw/291m,<br>30-16-51/81-34-12                                    |  |                   | NW# 200kw/236m   |
| Key West            | 49 WKIZ-LP | PR>2.2kw,<br>24-34-04/81-44-55  |  | <u>Iowa:</u>      |  |
| Lake City           | 11 WBFL-LP | QC# from ch. 15,<br>3kw,<br>30-12-50/82-39-00                           |  | Davenport         | 10 WBQD-LP   |
| Melbourne           | 46 W62CC   | QC# from ch. 62, 10kw   |  | Davenport         | 30 new AF dismissed  |
| Miami               | 20 WLRN-DT | NW#750kw/301m,<br>25-58-46/80-11-46                                     |  | Davenport         | 36 KQIN  |
| Miami               | 38 WPMF-LP | QC# from ch. 61   |  | Sioux City        | 5 K05LH  |
| Naples              | 45 WTVK-DT | NW#1000kw/456m,   |  |                   | PR>3kw   |
|                     |            |   |  | <u>Kansas:</u>    |  |
|                     |            |   |  | Pittsburg         | 14 KFJX  |
|                     |            |   |  | Topeka            | 11 KTWU  |
|                     |            |   |  | Topeka            | 23 KTWU-DT   |
|                     |            |   |  |                   | PR>960kw/281m  |
|                     |            |   |  | <u>Kentucky:</u>  |  |
|                     |            |   |  | Ashland           | 61 WTSF  |
|                     |            |   |  | Louisville        | 47 WAVE-DT   |
|                     |            |   |  |                   | FC to Daystar<br>NW# 1000kw/392m,<br>38-22-08/85-49-48                 |
|                     |            |   |  | <u>Louisiana:</u> |  |
|                     |            |   |  | Hammond           | 42 960920LW-DT   |
|                     |            |   |  |                   | AF 1000kw/294m,<br>29-58-41/89-56-26<br>(DTV only)                     |
|                     |            |   |  | New Orleans       | 22 WTNO-LP   |
|                     |            |   |  |                   | PR>50kw,<br>29-55-11/90-01-29  |
|                     |            |   |  | New Orleans       | 59 K59DG   |
|                     |            |   |  | Shreveport        | 31 K59GO   |
|                     |            |   |  |                   | PC#>90.9kw<br>QR from ch. 65,<br>50kw                                  |
|                     |            |   |  | <u>Maine:</u>     |  |

|                        |            |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------|------------|--|--|--|--|
| Bangor                 | 33 WBGR-LP | PR>150kw (at two different sites)<br>dismissed ROA   |  |  |  |
| Calais                 | 10 WMED-DT | NW# 3.5kw/133m   |  |  |  |
| <u>Maryland:</u>       |            |  |  |  |  |
| Vienna                 | 61 W61DS   | PR>150kw,<br>38-35-30/76-11-16; CL<br>from Salisbury                                       |  |  |  |
| <u>Massachusetts:</u>  |            |  |  |  |  |
| Adams                  | 38 W51AE   | PR>6kw on ch. 51<br>dismissed<br>ROA; requests 6kw on<br>this channel instead.             |  |  |  |
| Boston                 | 26 WHDN-LP | PR>15kw,<br>42-21-31/71-03-33; CC<br>from W23AM (was briefly<br>W26CM)                     |  |  |  |
| <u>Michigan:</u>       |            |  |  |  |  |
| Alpena                 | 11 WBKB-TV | XC# 44-42-11/83-31-26  |  |  |  |
| Cheboygan              | 35 WTOM-DT | QR from ch. 14,<br>78kw/168m   |  |  |  |
| Detroit                | 41 WXYZ-DT | PC#>770kw  |  |  |  |
| Escanaba               | 20 W20BZ   | NW# 10kw,<br>45-46-56/87-06-04   |  |  |  |
| Grand Rapids           | 29 W29CR   | NW# 40kw,<br>2-57-14/85-41-52; CL<br>from Mt. Pleasant                                     |  |  |  |
| Mount Pleasant         | 44 W44BQ   | NW# 240w,<br>43-41-56/84-46-11   |  |  |  |
| Muskegon               | 24 WTLJ-DT | NS 500kw/281m  |  |  |  |
| Sault S. Marie         | 8 WGTQ     | PR<288m, DA  |  |  |  |
| <u>Minnesota:</u>      |            |  |  |  |  |
| Bemidji                | 18 KAWE-DT | PR>80kw/303m   |  |  |  |
| Brainerd               | 48 K28DF   | QR from ch. 28, 1.14kw   |  |  |  |
| Minneapolis            | 14 K14KH   | PG>49.8kw,<br>44-58-34/93-16-20  |  |  |  |
| Minneapolis            | 23 KMWB    | PC# 3310kw/410m,<br>45-03-44/93-08-21  |  |  |  |
| Minneapolis            | 58 K58BS   | PC#<7kw  |  |  |  |
| Willmar                | 14 K14LF   | QC# from K36FL,<br>970w  |  |  |  |
| <u>Mississippi:</u>    |            |  |  |  |  |
| Bude                   | 18 WMAU-DT | NW# 1000kw/34m   |  |  |  |
| Mississippi St.        | 10 WMAB-DT | NW# 4.3kw/349m   |  |  |  |
| <u>Missouri:</u>       |            |  |  |  |  |
| Joplin                 | 20 KJDS-LP | QC# from ch. 48, 4kw,<br>37-01-15/94-32-24   |  |  |  |
| St. Louis              | 58 KPTN-LP | FC to HSN  |  |  |  |
| Springfield            | 28 KDEB-DT | PG 960kw/546m,<br>37-13-08/92-56-56  |  |  |  |
| <u>Montana:</u>        |            |  |  |  |  |
| Big Arm                | 14 K05EE   | QR from ch. 5, 250w,<br>47-40-39/114-08-30   |  |  |  |
| Polson                 | 16 K07HG   | QR from ch. 7, 250w,<br>47-40-39/114-08-30   |  |  |  |
| Rollins                | 32 K60AL   | QR from ch. 60, 250w,<br>47-40-39/114-08-30  |  |  |  |
| <u>Nebraska:</u>       |            |  |  |  |  |
| Alliance               | 24 KTNE-DT | NW 287kw/438m  |  |  |  |
| Bassett                | 15 KMNE-DT | NW 287kw/427m  |  |  |  |
| Hastings               | 28 KHNE-DT | NW 200kw/366m  |  |  |  |
| Lexington              | 26 KLNE-DT | NW 375kw/251m  |  |  |  |
| Lincoln                | 40 KUON-DT | NW 500kw/225m  |  |  |  |
| Merriman               | 17 KRNE-DT | NW 372kw/261m  |  |  |  |
| Norfolk                | 16 KXNE-DT | NW (on 1 May),<br>38kw/122m  |  |  |  |
| North Platte           | 16 KPNE-DT | NW 372kw/271m  |  |  |  |
| Omaha                  | 17 KYNE-DT | NW 200kw/117m  |  |  |  |
| Omaha                  | 20 KETV-DT | PG>409m  |  |  |  |
| Omaha                  | 24 KKAZ-CA | QC from ch. 18, 12.3kw,<br>41-15-26/95-59-01   |  |  |  |
| <u>Nevada:</u>         |            |  |  |  |  |
| Orovada                | 8 K08NM    | NW# 70w,<br>41-38-59/117-43-14   |  |  |  |
| Orovada                | 11 K11VB   | NW# 70w,<br>41-38-59/117-43-14   |  |  |  |
| Reno                   | 5 KNPB     | PR 4.61kw/145m   |  |  |  |
| Reno                   | 25 KRR1-LP | PR>14.9kw  |  |  |  |
| Reno                   | 46 KUVR-CA | QR from ch. 68, 10.9kw,<br>39-18-47/119-52-59  |  |  |  |
| Stateline              | 59 K59GM   | PR>8kw   |  |  |  |
| <u>New Hampshire:</u>  |            |  |  |  |  |
| Littleton              | 48 WLED-DT | NW# 45kw/388m,<br>44-21-10/71-44-15  |  |  |  |
| <u>New Jersey:</u>     |            |  |  |  |  |
| East Orange            | 34 WPXO-LP | PR>50kw,<br>40-44-54/73-59-10<br>(Empire State<br>Building, NYC)                           |  |  |  |
| Harrington Park        | 42 W68DN   | QR from ch.<br>68, 150kw,<br>40-57-39/73-55-21; CL<br>from Cherry Hill                     |  |  |  |
| Trenton                | 43 WNJT-DT | PG>266m  |  |  |  |
| Vineland               | 66 WUVP-DT | NW#>500kw/396m,<br>40-02-30/75-14-11<br>(Philadelphia antenna<br>farm)                     |  |  |  |
| <u>New Mexico:</u>     |            |  |  |  |  |
| Albuquerque            | 14 KAPX    | FC to Telefutera   |  |  |  |
| Albuquerque            | 17 KAZQ-DT | PR<65.6kw/1247m  |  |  |  |
| Albuquerque            | 32 KAZQ    | PR>263kw/1247m   |  |  |  |
| Carlsbad               | 47 K47FX   | PR<12.1kw,<br>32-28-28/104-11-54   |  |  |  |
| Las Vegas              | 43 K43FI   | PR dismissed ROA   |  |  |  |
| Roswell                | 15 K56CZ   | QC# from ch. 56, 10kw  |  |  |  |
| Santa Fe               | 27 KASA-DT | PR<255kw   |  |  |  |
| <u>New York:</u>       |            |  |  |  |  |
| Buffalo                | 32 WNLO-DT | NS 1000kw/314m   |  |  |  |
| Garden City            | 21 WLIW    | PG<2732kw/123m   |  |  |  |
| Hudson                 | 21 W21BU   | PR<300w,<br>42-13-06/73-51-54  |  |  |  |
| New York               | 31 WPXN-TV | AF 1800kw/360m,<br>40-44-54/73-59-10 (aux<br>backup but licensed<br>main no longer exists) |  |  |  |
| Syracuse               | 14 WAWA-LP | PR<9.8kw   |  |  |  |
| Syracuse               | 25 WCNY-DT | NS 97kw/393m,<br>42-56-44/76-07-07   |  |  |  |
| <u>North Carolina:</u> |            |  |  |  |  |
| Asheville              | 64 WAEN-LP | XR 35-27-40/82-21-27   |  |  |  |
| Burlington             | 14 WGPX-DT | PG<95kw/213m   |  |  |  |
| Lexington              | 20 WTWB-TV | PC#>5000kw/576m,<br>35-52-02/79-49-26  |  |  |  |
| Wilmington             | 3 WWAY     | PG<565m  |  |  |  |
| Wilmington             | 44 WECT-DT | QR from ch. 54,<br>575kw/280m,<br>34-19-16/78-13-43  |  |  |  |
| Wilson                 | 30 WRAY-TV | PR<1800kw  |  |  |  |

Wilson 42 WRAY-DT PR<873kw/539m

Ohio:

Akron 23 WVPX PC#>5000kw  
Athens 20 WOUB-TV PG<242m,  
39-18-52/82-08-59  
Delaware 42 WXCB-LP PC#>35kw  
Lima 23 W61CZ PR>20kw  
Portsmouth 66 W66CZ PR>12.4kw

Oregon:

Bend 15 KABH-CA PC#>84kw  
Lakeview 7 K07NR PR<1.11kw,  
42-12-18/120-19-38  
Medford 26 KMVU PC#>440m  
Prineville 19 K05HO QR from ch. 5, 50kw,  
44-11-51/120-58-35; CL  
from Riley

Pennsylvania:

Allentown 46 WFMZ-DT RA 200kw/314m  
Butler 44 W60BL QR from ch. 60, 2.87kw  
Freedom 28 W25BK QR dismissed ROA  
Kittanning 60 W25AX QR from ch. 25, 49kw,  
40-47-19/79-32-05  
Philadelphia 35 WYBE PC#< 1000kw/343m,  
40-02-30/75-14-11  
Pittsburgh 47 W65CG QR from ch. 65, 11.3kw  
Reading 24 W59CC QC# from ch. 59, 360w

South Carolina:

Columbia 57 WACH PC# 2766kw/484m,  
34-06-58/80-45-51  
Johnston 56 W33CA QR from ch. 33, 49.4kw,  
33-36-41/81-56-30,  
already granted; PR<10w

South Dakota:

Badger 35 K35GR PR<11.9kw; already  
granted  
Milbank 47 K47IC NW# 7.8kw,  
45-10-31/96-59-14  
(KDLT-46 NBC)  
Pierre 19 KPRY-DT NW# 61kw/347m  
Pierre 27 K27HJ PR<11.6kw  
Sioux Falls 29 KSFY-DT PC#<368kw/589m

Tennessee:

Chattanooga 9 WTVC PC#>322m,  
35-09-38/85-19-06  
Chattanooga 35 WTVC-DT NW# 200kw/305m  
Cookeville 57 W57CZ PC#>42.2kw  
Jackson 19 WJTE-LP PR>150kw  
Knoxville 32 WEEE-LP PR>150kw,  
36-00-13/83-56-34  
Lawrenceburg 13 W10BV XR 35-08-06/87-22-31  
Nashville 58 WNAB XC# 434m,  
36-15-50/86-47-39

Texas:

Abilene 56 KPTA-LP CC from K56GJ  
Austin 13 K13VC CX, DE due KAKW-DT  
Belton 38 KNCT-DT PR<360m  
Bovina 63 K63GN QC# from K59GG  
Britton 26 K26HF QC# from K67BL,  
6.45kw,  
32-35-19/96-58-05;  
CL from Mullin  
College Station 12 KAMU-DT NW# 3.2kw/105m  
Corpus Christi 32 K47DF QR from ch. 47, 10kw  
De Soto 28 KHPK-LP CC from K28HU  
El Paso 48 KTYO-1 PR>1.2kw  
Fort Worth 11 KTVT PG>521m  
Houston 61 KZJL PG<1700kw/579m,

Monahans 27 KPDN-LP CC from K27FL  
Odessa 38 KOCV-DT PG>500kw/80m  
Raymondville 46 KRYM-LP QR from ch. 55  
San Angelo 38 KTXE-LP QC# from ch. 55,  
6.38kw  
San Angelo 51 KPKS-LP CC from K51GQ  
San Antonio 18 KTDF-LP QC# from ch. 27,  
11.5kw,  
29-25-42/98-29-33  
San Antonio 23 KHCE PC#<327m,  
29-17-24/98-15-20  
Shamrock 22 K61CV QR from ch. 61, 6kw,  
32-35-21/96-58-13  
Snyder 49 K26DW PR<40kw,  
32-46-36/100-53-53  
Somerville 30 K35DI QR from ch. 35, 50kw,  
30-09-54/96-19-57  
Tyler 26 K26GA QC# from K14JD, 36kw  
Waco 26 KXXV-DT PR>561m

Utah:

Cedar City 5 K05HB PR>1.47kw  
Cedar City 7 K07GQ PR>390w  
Cedar City 11 K11CQ PR>390w  
Cedar City 13 K13CP PR>390w  
Koosharem 41 K17CZ QC from ch. 17, 70w  
Koosharem 45 K15EL QC from ch. 15, 70w  
Ogden 49 KSVN-CA PC#>15.38kw  
Price 3 KUTF NW# 70kw/658m,  
39-45-22/110-59-22; CC  
for new station  
Provo 32 KCBU PG>2990kw/825m,  
40-16-45/111-56-00; CC  
for new station  
Richfield 35 K35GQ NW# 600w,  
38-38-06/112-03-34  
Salt Lake City 38 KSL-DT NS 295kw/1128m,  
40-39-35/112-12-02 (aux  
backup)  
Salt Lake City 59 K59GS QC from K46BJ  
Sevier County 39 K39GN NW# 10w,  
38-30-44/111-47-01  
Sevier County 41 K29CU QC from ch. 41  
Sevier County 45 K31DL QC from ch. 45  
St. George 9 KUSG-DT NW# 3.2kw/43m  
St. George 18 KUEW-DT NW# 1.62kw/67m  
but dismissed  
Wayne County 43 K39FO QR from ch. 13 via ch.  
39,  
10w, 38-30-44/111-47-01

Virginia:

Charlottesville 19 860410KP PR>5000kw/499m,  
37-34-20/78-12-10  
Hampton 51 W21AQ QR from ch. 21, 50kw,  
37-04-41/76-26-47  
Lynchburg 34 WSET-DT PG<716kw/568m  
Petersburg 8 WRIC-TV PG>321m  
Petersburg 22 WRIC-DT NW# 450kw/328m  
Richmond 23 WCVE-TV PR<2300kw/346m  
Richmond 42 WCVE-DT PR>346m

Washington:

Everett 31 KONG-DT NS 700kw/218m,  
47-37-55/122-20-59  
Joyce 51 K51HB NW# 550w,  
48-09-03/123-40-16  
Spokane 8 KSPS-DT NW# 21.6kw/558m  
Wenatchee 47 KWCC-LP CC from K47EW  
Yakima 45 KDHW-LP PR>100kw

**West Virginia:**

**Morgantown** 33 WNPB-DT PR<108kw/441m  
**Weirton** 57 W57BH QR to ch. 18, 150kw  
but dismissed  
**Wheeling** 28 W28AS PG>37kw; CL from  
Bridgeport, OH

**Wisconsin:**

**Madison** 23 W23BW PR>70.6kw,  
43-03-09/89-28-42

**Wyoming:**

**Casper** 17 KTWO-DT NW 741kw/588m  
**Cheyenne** 11 KKTU-DT PR<16kw/650m,  
40-32-47/105-11-50

**Puerto Rico:**

**Arecibo** 20 WIMN-CA CC from W20BX  
**Caguas** 56 WLII-DT PG<71kw/357m;  
already on  
**Mayaguez** 22 WNJX-TV PR<658m;  
PC#>4201kw/676m,  
18-09-00/66-59-00  
**Mayaguez** 35 WIPM-DT PG<620kw/674m

**Notes:**

Thanks to Eric Bueneman, Bob Timmerman, Matt Sittel, Jeff Kruszka, John Zeis, Rick Plummer, and Jim Ayers for information appearing elsewhere in this column.

I've received some comments about stations listed as "NW" (new to the air) or "PC" (power/tower height change on the air). Many of these stations have in fact been operating for months, if not years, on the new facilities. Most listings as "NW" or "PC" are triggered when the station files for a "license to cover". The new facilities must be tested on the air before this license can be requested, and when the FCC grants this license, the station is obligated to operate at least a minimum schedule.

However, a construction permit conveys authority for on-the-air equipment tests. (of course, it would be impossible to perform the required tests otherwise!) And, the FCC can grant "program test authority" to a station holding a construction permit. Such stations can broadcast just as if they held a license. Unfortunately, "program test authority" is not reported in the FCC database.

So, it is possible for a station to operate for quite some time before applying for a "license to cover". Unless a DXer sees the station and tells me it's operating, I can't know if it's on the air. (even if you do tell me, I'll probably forget <grin>!) This means the "NW" listings can be badly out of date.

Starting this month, I have begun marking those listings which were triggered by a "license to cover". A hash mark (#) indicates

such listings. There's a good chance these stations have been operating with the new facilities for quite some time.

It looks like the "2189m" reported as the antenna height of KKTU-DT last month was indeed a typo; it should have been 2189 feet. (roughly 650m) That's still rather high for the Cheyenne area, but for a transmitter site in northern Colorado maybe it's not so unlikely.

Note a new high-power channel 3 on the air in Utah. I've not been able to dig up any programming information on KUTF. With those call letters, I would not be too surprised if it turned out to be a Telefutura outlet. Also, UPN affiliate K15DR in northwest Arkansas has moved to channel 4 with 3kw. The only other UPN station I know of on channel 4 is a 750-watt LPTV in Florida. This one should stand out!

Many of the Alberta changes this month reflect an attempt by Global to launch a second service in that province. CKRD-TV [6] in Red Deer wants to disaffiliate from the CBC and become an independent station similar to CHCH [11] Hamilton, Ontario. They want relay stations on channel 23 in both Calgary and Edmonton. The callsigns I'm listing for these channel 23 stations are unofficial ; in fact, no calls will be assigned until (and unless) Global's application is approved.

To maintain CBC service in central Alberta, Global's two channel 10 relay stations in the area would be turned over to the CBC. The station in Coronation, Alberta which currently relays CKRD will remain on channel 10; the station in Red Deer which currently relays Global's CITV [13] Edmonton will move to channel 2. (why it can't stay on channel 10 I've no idea!) It's unclear which CBC station these two transmitters will relay ; either CBXT [5] Edmonton or CBRT [9] Calgary. (my money would be on Edmonton)

The stations on channels 38 in Calgary, 56 in Edmonton, and 58 in Red Deer are applications from CHUM Ltd., licensee of CITY [57] Toronto, for completely new operations. Red Deer will relay Edmonton. CBXBT, CBRT-4, CBLHT, and CBCQ-1 all reflect improvements to the CBC's satellite distribution, which make it possible for these stations to relay provincial "key" stations instead of taking the "CBC North" satellite service.



As with the CKRD relayers, the callsigns listed for the proposed CITS and CJMT relayers are unofficial. Note that the two Ottawa applications are mutually exclusive. The notice listed CITS's city of license as Burlington, but the Industry Canada database (and all previous information) listed it as Hamilton, and I'm going to keep it that way.

The situation with WPXN-31 in New York is rather strange. WPXN's licensed main transmitter site is on the World Trade Center which, of course, no longer exists. The application listed this month is for a transmitter on the Empire State Building. But it's characterized as a backup transmitter, not a replacement main. I suppose it might represent faith on Paxson's part that the Trade Center will be rebuilt and will again house TV transmitters ; that someday, WPXN-31's main transmitter will return to the site it occupied on Sept. 10, 2001.

Jim Ayers reports logging a new Daystar affiliate in north Georgia. According to the Daystar website, W28CD is located in Gainesville ; it doesn't have much of a signal at Jim's location north of Atlanta. I can't find any information on this station, it's not in the FCC database. There is a Daystar LPTV on channel 28 on the north side of Atlanta itself; WDTA-LP is licensed to Fayetteville. But it's not that far from Jim's location, and its directional pattern should favor Jim. My guess is it's indeed WDTA with a screwed-up antenna pattern.

John Zeis updates us on several Philadelphia-area stations. WYBE-DT [34] had been transmitting a dead carrier for several weeks, with no audio or video streams. Station personnel told John they were lacking a part (my guess: MPEG encoder) but wanted to make field-strength measurements on the new transmitter and antenna. Apparently this part arrived on April 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup>, as regular programming began on one of those dates. It's a simulcast of their analog signal, on virtual channel 34-1.

Also new to the air in early March is WUVP-DT on channel 66. 66-1 is a simulcast of this Univision station's analog (channel 65) signal. 66-2 is carrying the Telefutura network feed. WFMZ-DT on channel 46 has returned to the air after a dark period. This station also simulcasts its analog on 46-1, while carrying the ACCUWeather Channel on 46-2. Finally, John is getting erratic reception of WGCB-DT on channel 30. The station's website says the digital station is only operated from 8pm to midnight for economic reasons. WGCB is

by no means the only station doing this. (i.e., don't give up on DXing channel 30 if you have a DTV local there. There's a fair chance the local will have a LOT of offtime.)

Omaha also has some new DTVs. Matt reports KYNE-DT [17] signing on the air on March 28<sup>th</sup>. This station has three virtual channels, all running the same KYNE-DT text ID. 26-1 is "NETV2", with PBS children's programs. 26-2 is "NETV3" with similar programming but not parallel. And 26-3 is the regular "NETV" feed aired on KYNE's analog signal.

NETV's chief engineer told Matt six of the nine ETV stations would have begun DTV testing on April 1<sup>st</sup>, operating from 7pm to midnight. The exceptions are KXNE-DT [16] in Norfolk, which will not begin tests until May 1<sup>st</sup>; KYNE-DT (which of course is already on); and KUON-DT [40] in Lincoln which was also to begin tests on March 28<sup>th</sup>. (Matt has not yet seen KUON-DT, and speculates it may not be using the listed 500kw) Regular DTV programming is to begin on all eight stations (except KXNE) on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

K18EC in Omaha has moved to channel 24. Kinda. Actually, as of late March this KPTM-42 translator was operating on both channels 18 and 24. The signal on channel 24 is slightly stronger at Matt's location, probably because the channel 24 transmitter is roughly 9 miles east of channel 18, at the KPTM/KXVO studios on Farnam St. Incidentally, the call letters of this station have been changed to KKAZ-CA.

KETV-DT [20] has added a text ID of "KETV-HD". Previously, they had no text ID at all.

Bob Timmerman reports WFWA-DT operating on channel 40. Two virtual channels; one simulcasts WFWA's analog signal, the other is a DTV demo loop from WLIW [21].

Fox LPTVs KUIL-LP [64] Beaumont, Texas and KVHP-LP [66] Jasper, Texas appear to be simulcasting. (not surprising) Jeff Kruszka caught channel 66 running a test pattern with the KUIL calls. Note that KVHP are also the calls of the full-power Fox affiliate in nearby Lake Charles, Louisiana. Expect to see these LPTVs translating KVHP much of the time.

Finally, Rick chimes in with some information

from Iowa. In the Quad Cities, IPBN (the Iowa PBS network) has purchased KQCT-36. The calls are to be eventually changed to KQIN; however, this change is not yet official. IPBN's main station KDIN-DT [50] in Des Moines is now originating high-definition programs. The remaining IPBN stations are linked to Des Moines by fiber.

In Cedar Rapids, KRIN-DT [35], KGAN-DT [51], and KCRG-DT [52] are to share a common DTV antenna on the KCRG-TV [9] tower. As of early April they were still awaiting a combiner ; KCRG-DT was already operating, with their transmitter temporarily connected directly to the DTV antenna.

KRIN's analog signal (channel 32) is also broadcast from the KCRG tower. They were on reduced power for a time after fire in a relay bank, and some transmission-line problems. Channel 32 is back to full power.

I'm reading conflicting reports about the status of television in Iraq in the wake of the war there. It's been widely reported that a television service is on the air in Baghdad, using the same channels as were used by Iraqi government television before (and during) the war, but carrying programs produced by the U.S. military. One report indicates the military plans to launch a

second channel. Reportedly this service is only available in the Baghdad area, with no TV in most of the rest of the country. As of my deadline, Tikrit, the last major city still under Iraqi government control, had not yet fallen. There are reports that limited television service under control of the Baath government was still operating in Tikrit.

The TV service in Baghdad has been operating limited hours, roughly five hours a night. The story I've heard is that the broadcasts are not from the original ground-based transmitters but from the Commando Solo aircraft. Apparently these aircraft can only fly for six hours without refueling; thus, the limited schedule.

Iraq is a common E-skip target for European DXers. The main Baghdad transmitter operated on channel E3. (roughly equivalent to channel 2 in North America) I would imagine Europeans will soon know exactly what's going on there and will see some rather unusual programming.

There are already signs of E-skip here in North America. The tropo forecast for next week is very promising for much of the country. Here's hoping for plenty of DX for all of you!

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- 5 MADE FOR EACH OTHER
- 6 THE MEDIUM
- 6 DANGEROUS CHARTER
- 7 RIFF RAFF
- 8 WORLD OF APU
- 9 WOMAN OF EVIL
- 10 TAMANGO
- 11 MILL OF THE STONE WOMEN
- 12 JOURNEY INTO NOWHERE
- 12 MAKE WAY FOR LILA
- 13 THE AWAKENING
- 13 WITHOUT PITY
- 14 NIGHTS OF RASPUTIN
- 17 HE SCAVENGERS
- 18 I'LL BE SEEING YOU
- 19 EAST OF KILIMANJARO
- 19 WHEN THE GIRLS TAKE OVER
- 20 ANATOMY OF A PSYCHO
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**DECEMBER, 1964**

# TV News Supplemental

(After preparing the original May column I encountered a list of proposed DTV channel amendments. "SG"=Sierra Grande, applicant for several new DTV allotments.)

|                     |             |                             |                         |            |                        |
|---------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|------------|------------------------|
| <u>Alabama:</u>     |             |                             | Billings                | 10 KTVQ-DT | from ch. 17            |
| Anniston            | 9 WJSU-DT   | from ch. 58                 | Butte                   | 5 KXLF-DT  | from ch. 15            |
| Birmingham          | 5 WBIQ-DT   | from ch. 53                 | Glendive                | 10 KXGN-DT | from ch. 15            |
| Mobile              | 18 new-DT   | new paired w/analog 61      | Great Falls             | 7 KRTV-DT  | from ch. 44            |
| Mt. Cheaha          | 4 WCIQ-DT   | from ch. 56                 | Missoula                | 7 KPAX-DT  | from ch. 35            |
|                     |             |                             | Missoula                | 5 KECI-DT  | from ch. 40            |
| <u>Alaska:</u>      |             |                             | <u>Nevada:</u>          |            |                        |
| Anchorage           | 6 KYES-DT   | from ch. 22                 | Goldfield               | 31 KTVY-DT | new paired w/analog 7  |
| <u>Arizona:</u>     |             |                             | Reno                    | 10 KRXI-DT | from ch. 44            |
| Chandler            | 55 new-DT   | new paired w/analog 67      | Tonopah                 | 10 new-DT  | new (Landmark Comms.)  |
| Yuma                | 24 new-DT   | new, educ. (KAWC-1320)      | <u>New Jersey:</u>      |            |                        |
| <u>Arkansas:</u>    |             |                             | Vineland                | 24 new-DT  | new paired w/analog 59 |
| Mountain View       | 13 KEMV-DT  | from ch. 35                 | <u>New Mexico:</u>      |            |                        |
| <u>California:</u>  |             |                             | Des Moines              | 6 new-DT   | new (SG)               |
| Palm Springs        | 44 KESQ-DT  | from ch. 52                 | Roswell                 | 31 new-DT  | new (KENW-3)           |
| Santa Ana           | 16 KTBN-DT  | from ch. 23                 | Silver City             | 8 KOBG-DT  | new paired w/analog 6  |
| <u>Colorado:</u>    |             |                             | <u>New York:</u>        |            |                        |
| Alamosa             | 38 new-DT   | new (SG)                    | Albany                  | 7 WXXA -DT | from ch. 4             |
| Ouray               | 9 new-DT    | new (SG)                    | Arcade                  | 24 new-DT  | new paired w/analog 62 |
| Pueblo              | 3 new-DT    | new (SG)                    | Arcade                  | 56 new-DT  | new paired w/analog 62 |
| <u>Florida:</u>     |             |                             | Geneseo                 | 41 new-DT  | new (Renard Comms.)    |
| Boynton Beach       | 57 new-DT   | new (Pappas)                | Kingston                | 48 WRNN-DT | from ch. 21            |
| Ft. Walton Bch      | .50 WFGX-DT | from ch. 25                 | Rochester               | 41 new-DT  | new paired w/analog 61 |
| <u>Georgia:</u>     |             |                             | <u>North Dakota:</u>    |            |                        |
| Albany              | 12 WFXL-DT  | from ch. 30                 | Jamestown               | 30 KJRR-DT | from ch. 14            |
| Warner-Robins       | 18 new-DT   | new paired w/analog 35      | <u>Ohio:</u>            |            |                        |
| <u>Illinois:</u>    |             |                             | Bowling Green           | 20 WBGU-DT | from ch. 56            |
| Champaign           | 5 WCIA-DT   | from ch. 48                 | <u>Oklahoma:</u>        |            |                        |
| Springfield         | 36 new-DT   | new paired w/analog 65      | Bartlesville            | 32 KDOR-DT | from ch. 15            |
| <u>Iowa:</u>        |             |                             | Enid                    | 21 new-DT  | new paired w/analog 26 |
| Des Moines          | 56 new-DT   | from ch. 69                 | Muskogee                | 20 KWBT-DT | new paired w/analog 19 |
| <u>Kansas:</u>      |             |                             | Oklahoma City           | 40 KAUT-DT | from ch. 42            |
| Derby               | 46 new-DT   | from analog ch. 46 (Pappas) | Tulsa                   | 26 new-DT  | new paired w/analog 63 |
| Elkart              | 8 new-DT    | new (SG)                    | <u>Oregon:</u>          |            |                        |
| Goodland            | 2 new-DT    | new (SG)                    | Eugene                  | 44 KEZI-DT | from ch. 14            |
| Hutchinson          | 6 new-DT    | new (SG)                    | <u>Pennsylvania:</u>    |            |                        |
| <u>Louisiana:</u>   |             |                             | Hazleton                | 45 WOLF-DT | from ch. 9             |
| Hammond             | 42 new-DT   | from ch. 62                 | Jeannette               | 49 WNPA-DT | from ch. 30            |
| New Orleans         | 21 WHNO-DT  | from ch. 14                 | <u>South Carolina:</u>  |            |                        |
| <u>Maine:</u>       |             |                             | Georgetown              | 38 new-DT  | new paired w/analog 41 |
| Portland            | 43 WPXT-DT  | from ch. 4                  | Rock Hill               | 24 WFVT-DT | from ch. 39            |
| <u>Michigan:</u>    |             |                             | <u>South Dakota:</u>    |            |                        |
| Cadillac            | 17 WCMV-DT  | from ch. 58                 | Sioux Falls             | 51 KAUN-DT | from ch. 40            |
| Calumet             | 39 WBKP-DT  | from ch. 18                 | <u>Tennessee:</u>       |            |                        |
| Manistee            | 58 WCMW-DT  | from ch. 17                 | Knoxville               | 7 WBIR-DT  | from ch. 31            |
| Sault Ste. Marie    | 9 WGTQ-DT   | from ch. 56                 | <u>Texas:</u>           |            |                        |
| Traverse City       | 23 new-DT   | new (WCMU-14)               | Amarillo                | 8 KACT-DT  | from ch. 21            |
| <u>Minnesota:</u>   |             |                             | Corpus Christi          | 8 KIII-DT  | from ch. 47            |
| Thief R. Falls      | 32 KBRR-DT  | from ch. 57                 | Corpus Christi          | 13 KRIS-DT | from ch. 50            |
| <u>Mississippi:</u> |             |                             | Fredericksburg          | 63 KBEJ-DT | new paired w/analog 2  |
| Booneville          | 8 WMAE-DT   | from ch. 55                 | McAllen                 | 49 KNVO-DT | from ch. 46            |
| Clarksdale          | 26 new-DT   | from ch. 21 (MS ETV)        | Monahans                | 13 KWES-DT | from ch. 15            |
| Jackson             | 9 WLBT-DT   | from ch. 51                 | <u>Utah:</u>            |            |                        |
| Jackson             | 53 new-DT   | new paired w/analog 51      | Ogden                   | 17 KUWB-DT | from ch. 29            |
| Tupelo              | 8 WTVA-DT   | from ch. 57                 | Provo                   | 49 KPNZ-DT | new paired w/analog 24 |
| <u>Missouri:</u>    |             |                             | <u>Vermont:</u>         |            |                        |
| St. Louis           | 52 new-DT   | from ch. 40 (KETC-9)        | Burlington              | 13 WVNY-DT | from ch. 16            |
| <u>Montana:</u>     |             |                             | (CONTINUES ON PAGE 13 ) |            |                        |

# Eastern TV-DX

Matthew C. Sittel  
15013 Eureux St.  
Bellevue, NE 68123  
mcsittel@cox.net

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May, 2003

June 2003 column deadline: May 12

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Eastern TV-DX is for reporters from the following states: AL, CT, DE, FL, GA, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, NC, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, SC, TN, VA, VT and WV, plus Washington, DC. Also for reporters from the following Canadian provinces: NB, NF, NS, ON, PEI and PQ. Overseas reports welcome!

---

Roy Barstow, P.O. Box 2488, Teaticket, MA 02536

roybarstow@hotmail.com

3/12 tr

0810 WYDO-14 NC Greenville  
WEPX-38 NC Greenville  
WPXU-35 NC Jacksonville

WSFX-26 NC Wilmington  
WUNJ-39 NC Wilmington  
WFXI-8 NC Morehead City  
Plus 15, 27, 33, 39 and 43 E. Virginia

Nice to see some DX. It was 60 degrees in Falmouth on March 16 yet no DX.

---

Saul Chernos, 57 Berkeley St., Toronto, ON M5A 2W5 Canada

schernos@sympatico.ca

1/5 Es

2200 WDIQ-2 AL Dozier, APT logo & SID, voice ID. MUF ch. 4

Nice to get this tiny bit of off-season Es to kick-start 2003. Heard at Burnt River. 73s, Saul

---

Jim Ayers, 2497 Wind Forest Court, Norcross, GA 30071

jimayers@raider.net

3/8 tr

1126 WUPN-48 NC Greensboro 284  
WLFL-22 NC Raleigh 331  
1131 WTWB-20 NC Lexington 284  
local WTBS-DT off air

4/5 tr

0244 WTLH-49 GA Bainbridge 224  
WTWC-40 FL Tallahassee 230  
Over-riding local WIRE-LP after 6 years!

This ends the longest drought between new loggings since I started DXing 30 years ago. Last new logging of something other than another local -DT was a year ago. Apparently my new loggings are now arriving alphabetically. (That means you'll soon be logging only Mexican TVs, hi-mcs) 73's, Jim.

---

Mike Bugaj, 69 Sherman Road, Enfield, CT 06082

4/17 WHCT-LP 38 Hartford, new station w/Dr. Gene Scott; 4/19 WHDH-DT 42 Boston, WGBH-DT-19 Boston; 4/21 0718 WTXF-DT 42 Phila, 0722 WCBS-DT 56 NYC, 0742 WNYW/WWOR-DT 44 NYC, 0754 WPVI-DT 64 Philadelphia (200mi) plus a couple of unid DTVs on 66 and 54.

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## TV NEWS SUPPLEMENTAL CONTINUES FROM PAGE 12

Rutland 9 WVER-DT from ch. 56

Virginia:

Norfolk 40 WTKR-DT from ch. 58

Washington:

Seattle 53 new-DT new paired w/analog 62  
Spokane 48 KSKN-DT from ch. 36

West Virginia:

Charleston 52 new-DT new paired w/analog 23  
Fairmont 55 new-DT new paired w/analog 66  
Weston 6 WDTV-DT from ch. 58

Wisconsin:

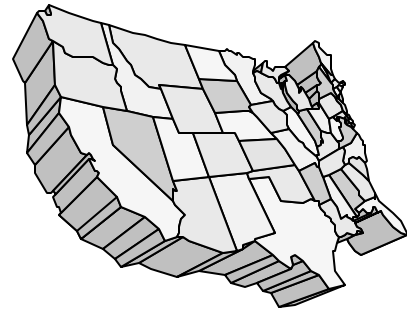
Appleton 27 WACY-DT from ch. 59  
Richland Center 45 new-DT from analog ch. 45

Wyoming:

Jackson 4 KJWY-DT from ch. 14

# Western TV DX

**VICTOR FRANK**  
**12450 SKYLINE BLVD.**  
**WOODSIDE, CA 94062-4554**  
**Victor.frank@sri.com**



**Dennis Park Smith**, 3605 San Remo Drive, Santa Barbara, CA 93105-2523 (805)687-7803

This report is for March 2003. Southern California coastal tropo conditions were as unsettled as was February, with only occasional slight tropo, typical of this season, for TV-FM to San Diego/Tijuana, up to 200mi/320km.

- Mar 1 – 5am: None
- Mar 5 eve: Poor
- Mar 6 – 8: Very poor
- Mar 9 – 11: Variably fair (high pressure)
- Mar 12 - 13: Very poor
- Mar 14-18 am: None (rain Mar 14-15)
- Mar 18 eve: showers Mar 17)
- Mar 19 am: None
- Mar 19 eve: Very poor
- Mar 20-21 am: None
- Mar 21 eve-22am: Very poor
- Mar 22 eve-25: None (low pressure, wx front)
- Mar 26 am: Very poor
- Mar 26 eve:-31am: None (windy)
- Mar 31 eve: Very poor

Best of DX to All. Dennis

**Frank W. Merrill**, P.O. Box 669, Macomb, IL61455

Equipment: Icom R7000 with monitor, and late-70's-era 13" Zenith. Ancient Winegard 8100(?) at 45 feet for tropo; Channel Master VHF-UHF mounted vertically (sideways) at 10' for E skip.

2002 Es Summary: 130 loggings in total. Frequency of occurrence shown for loggings unless only once.

- 2: WESH/WPBT-FL(10/10), WDIQ(3), KTVQ(5), KNAZ(2), KPRC(2), KASA(3), CICT(2), XEFB(2), KTWO(2), WBRZ(2), XEPM, KUTV, KMID, KWGN, KBEJ, XHIA, CKAL1, CKSA, KNOP, KXMA.
- 3: WEDU-FL(7), KBME(3), KTVK/ KIII/ KOTA/ CFSS(2), KRTV, KENW, KATC, KVBC, CBCP3, KYUS, KSWK, KFDX, WLBT, KACB.
- 4: KDBC/KWSE(3), KXLF/KOUS/KGBT/WFOR/ KBTW(2), WJXT, KWAB, KVOA, KTVX, KDUH, WWL, CKBI3, CFSK, WSKY, WUNC, KTFL.
- 5: KRGV(3), WUFT(2), KPHO, XEJ, KXGN,
- 6: KSVI, KMOH, KFDM, WDSU.

## February 2002

- 7 tr 0400-2300 Range
- 0400 CKCO-1 42 ON 440
- 2130 KTBO 14 OK 510
- 2244 WIPX-LP 51 IN Indianapolis nx 245
- 8 tr 0021 W18CJ 18 IL Quincy, 3ABN 55
- 0030 KPXD 68 TX 644

- 0035 KSBN 57 AR Note #1 320
- 52 OK Oklahoma City 510
- 0100 K45EI 45 AR Note #2 320
- 0112 "ANC" 14 KS Lawrence?
- 0123 K49DG 49 MO Springfield TBN 240
- 0130 WBQD-LP 26 IA ¾ CB + ID 75
- Davenport – "WB" Note #3
- KAFT 13 AR 340
- 0144 K18 18 unID, see Note #4
- 0200 22 unID see Note #4

## June 2002

- 8 tr 0600 Range:
- KGIN 11 NE strong 400
- KASN 38 AR 460
- WSMH 66 MI 430
- WAOM 67 KY 320
- 0720 WAVE 3 KY 320
- "first time in 8-10 years"
- 13-14 Es I was out of town. ☹
- 19 tr KAKE 10 KS CCI most eve. 430
- 20 tr 0344 KBSH 7 KS storm warning 480
- 0351 KSNG 11 KS rare! NBC+240°600
- 22 tr 0400 K41DD 41 IA relog? 180
- DesMoines—America's Store
- 0416 K25DE 25

## IA Ottumwa-KYOU105

- 23 tr 2025 KWCV 33 KS also 10,12 430
- 2325 KSNB 4 NE rare 400
- 25 tr 0120 W50 50 IL Altonracing ex:57 130
- Es 1120 KSWK 3 KS rare 580
- 1233 KNOP 2 NE Nebraska ad 530

## July 2002

- 5 tr 0410 WOIO 19 OH strong 470
- 7 tr 0327 K44FK 44 IA Waterloo TBN 160
- 9 Es 1758 WPBT/WESH 2 FL Note #5
- 15 tr 1901 KQDS 21 MN 446
- 16 tr 0016 KBJR 6 WI rare! US53 ad 446
- 0106 KCCW 12 MN snowfree 500
- KSAX 42 MN 425
- 0459 K58GC 21 MN Rochester 270
- 3ABN, from 58
- 24 tr 0628 K60FY 60 MN Frost KSTP-5 270
- 0633 WEUX 48 WI 330
- & scrambled 48 MN St. James?
- Cedar Rapids OFF
- 25 tr 0210 WGEM 10 IL Note #6
- 0545 KETAt 13 OK probably them perfect "Z" to KRCG
- 26 tr 0946 unID 34 Note #7
- 1001 KYNE 26 NE local quality 280
- also 13, 19, 29 NEs
- 1100 K18CB 18 NE Lincoln KSNB-4 300

## July 2002

- 28 Es 1930 WSKY 4 NC Note #8 820

## August 2002

- 01 tr 0200 WEAU 13 WI 330
- Green Bay 5, 11 290
- 0416 K16EL 16 IA Davenport 3ABN 75
- 0450 KXPX 49 AR 480
- 0530 KARD 14 LA 550

|       |      |                  |    |    |                                       |     |            |
|-------|------|------------------|----|----|---------------------------------------|-----|------------|
|       | 0550 | <u>W22CI</u>     | 22 | WI | Bloomington                           | PTV | 260        |
|       | 0756 | WLJT             | 11 | TN | rare                                  |     | 350        |
|       | 0800 | <u>WJYL-LP45</u> |    | IN | Clarksville                           |     | <u>320</u> |
|       |      |                  |    |    | Full audio ID                         |     |            |
| 02 Es | 2000 | <u>KTFL</u>      | 4  | AZ |                                       |     | 1220       |
|       | 2019 | KVBC             | 3  | NV |                                       |     | 1359       |
|       | 2026 | <u>KMOH</u>      | 6  | AZ | w/KNAZ-2                              |     | 1300       |
|       |      |                  |    |    | At last! Is this blocked to the east? |     |            |
| tr    | 2200 | WEAU             | 13 | WI |                                       |     | 330        |
|       |      | KSFY             | 13 | SD |                                       |     | 370        |
|       |      | KQDS             | 21 | MN |                                       |     | 446        |
| 03 tr | 0000 | Many from NW-NNE |    |    | 300-420 miles                         |     |            |
|       | 0000 | <u>K30FZ</u>     | 30 | MN | Willmar                               |     | <u>370</u> |
|       |      |                  |    |    | w/ KSTP or KSAX                       |     |            |
|       | 0030 | KDLO             | 3  | SD | very rare                             |     | 470        |
|       | 0106 | KCCW             | 12 | MN |                                       |     | 500        |
|       |      | KBJR             | 6  | WI |                                       |     | 446        |
|       | 0313 | <u>K56</u>       | 56 | MN | Rochester                             |     | 270        |
|       |      |                  |    |    | TBN, from 60                          |     |            |
| 28 tr | 2344 | WBKB             | 11 | MI | Zero to WTTW                          |     | 500        |
| 29 tr | 0028 | N. Michigan      |    |    | on 9, 33, 45                          |     |            |
|       | 0156 | <u>W68AA</u>     | 31 | IL | Danville                              |     | <u>160</u> |
|       |      |                  |    |    | WAND-17 from 68                       |     |            |
|       | 0508 | WPBN             | 7  | MI | 1 <sup>st</sup> time in years         |     | 410        |
|       | 0524 | <u>CBFT23</u>    | 16 | ON | Note #9                               |     | <u>597</u> |
|       | 0540 | WCMU             | 14 | MI | rare                                  |     | 380        |
|       |      | WCMW             | 21 | MI | rare                                  |     | 350        |
|       | 0549 | <u>CICI</u>      | 5  | ON | Note #10                              |     | <u>526</u> |
|       | 0600 | <u>W68</u>       | 68 | IL | Palatine, TBN                         |     | <u>190</u> |
|       |      |                  |    |    | from 36                               |     |            |
|       | 0604 | <u>CHBX</u>      | 2  | ON | formerly via Es                       |     | 526        |
|       | 0610 | SS Marie         |    | MI | 8,10                                  |     | 525        |
|       | 0646 | WTJR             | 16 | IL | "noted back on"                       |     | 55         |
|       | 0649 | <u>W40AN</u>     | 40 | MI | relog?                                |     | <u>380</u> |
|       |      |                  |    |    | (Escanaba WLUK-11)                    |     |            |
|       | 1928 | WBAY             | 2  | WI | rare, but fizzled                     |     | 290        |

October 2002

|      |      |                                 |    |    |                  |  |            |
|------|------|---------------------------------|----|----|------------------|--|------------|
| 6 tr | 0530 | Many Atlanta, N.AL, Chattanooga |    |    | Us               |  |            |
|      | 0558 | <u>WATC</u>                     | 57 | GA | Note #11         |  | <u>580</u> |
|      | 0705 | <u>WRJM</u>                     | 67 | AL | farthest of open |  | <u>660</u> |

Distances mostly estimated—I've misplaced my printout! What a bad season! But a very strange one as well, with the scattered tr openings in strange directions (much northern stuff!) The Es was even stranger, because even in "great" seasons I can nowadays come close to being shut out of anything new on TV, and most of the past 7 or 8 seasons have provided me exactly one new Es station each—so why do I get four new in a crummy season? I even missed the major mid-June openings. Only two of these four can be attributed to the stations coming on recently; KNOP is one of the oldest Nebraskans west of Lincoln. I assume that Douglas AZ or Farmington NM will probably be on by this season—maybe both—which should make 2003 "safe" from a shutout. There are always elusive Mexicans, especially ones I still need from SL/AG/VE, to try for, as well. Does anybody know if Ojinaga, CH6 is on yet? Everybody, have a great season!

Notes:

- 0035, 8 Feb 2002—may be a relog for me, I'm not sure. Offset noted as 57+, though listed 57z in database, w/worship.
- 0100, 8 Feb—also may be a relog. (Full update badly needed here!) Surprisingly, after Fayetteville ad, a full "K45EI Bentonville—Rogers" audio ID! I don't hear these often on translators/LPs.

0130, 8 Feb—How can this even exist? They are "barely" 50 air miles from Burlington IA KGWB, which has a CP for more than 1 Megawatt. The

- only logical answer seems to be that they may be co-owned with KGWB, and they may decide to run W.B. to get people "used to" seeing W.B. on 26 in the Quad Cities, then delete it when KGWB upgrades? But neither Jeff nor I can figure out the real purpose of this station.
- 0144, 8 Feb & 0200—18 was TBN from the SW (suspect southern MO or NW AR—not St. Louis!); 22 was "Shop NBC" programming also from the SW "toward Joplin, perhaps"—not Galveston. Anybody seen these?
- 1758, 09 July—WOW! TV all the way from Florida! Actually, in 2002, such was almost a treat.
- 0210, 25 July—On low power, or what? If going full blast, they were almost entirely "tropeoed-out" with KAKE, KOLR running things. But they WERE on, intermittently on top. Strange; OK by 0400.
- 0946, 26 July—According to my notes, I saw "KWOT-34" here, with antenna pointed toward Omaha. Wot is this? Did I really see this, or KYOU (Kirksville translator)? I suspect I was trying to write down two or three things at once, and now I forget.
- 1930, 28 July—"Sky 4" calendar, Elizabeth City ad, "the areas newest television station," and into a black & white movie—in PRIME TIME! Cool, but pretty darn strange nowadays—how long will this last before they become another network station?
- 0524, 29 August—Seen with "Ottawa" ¾ color bars and 0624:00 clock, signed on 0525 into French, "Z" offset. Yikes—I was looking for Sheboygan WI TBN! Local WTJR off for some reason. Jeff saw this once before I even moved here, and I had long since concluded this catch would be impossible. My first-ever tr "across Lake Superior" from here. STRONG, too!
- 0549, 29 August—Promo for Opening Night tonight at 8:00 on CBC. Zero offset, and most definitely not toward Toronto, and 104.3 blasting in, etc.
- 0558, 06 October—end of Bethany Hour on "Channel 57" (so not a translator); this shown to be on WATC via TV Guide website. At last I log John Broomall's station! Also completes full-service TVs in metro Atlanta for me.

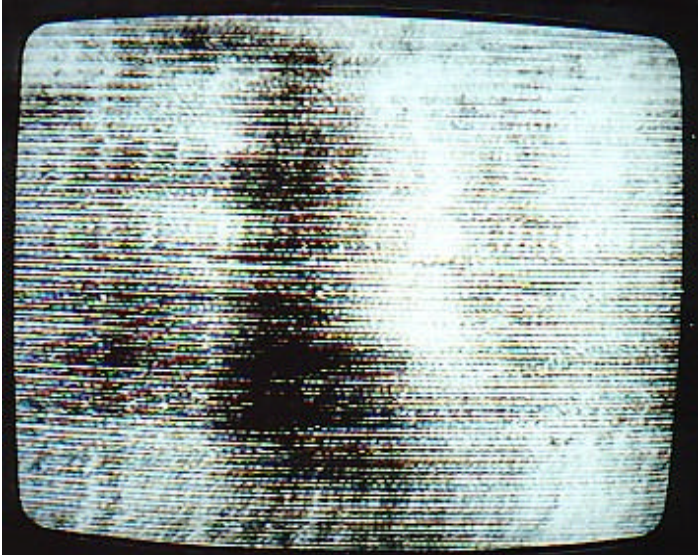


**I Want an Update of Your FM and TV Stats NOW**

Get your stats in now to Fred Nordquist!  
[nordquis@twcnny.rr.com](mailto:nordquis@twcnny.rr.com)

May 2003

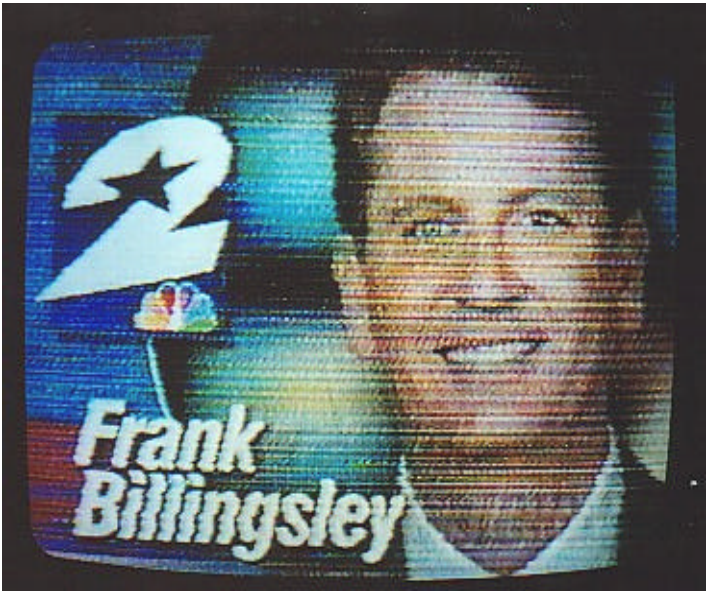
We hear again from Aaron Mitterling, of Ft. Wayne, IN, with some very impressive Es photos from last year:



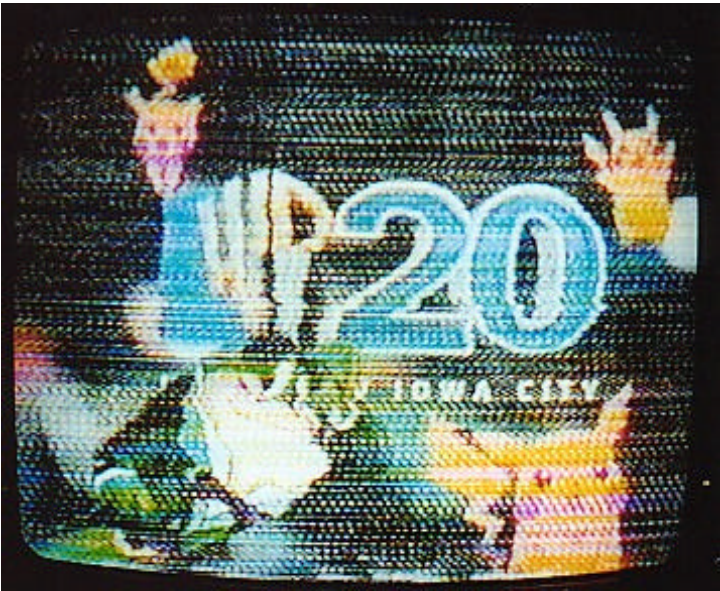
Unid F2, ch. 2  
Seen 12/31/01



WWAY-3 Wilmington, NC  
650 mi Es seen 1/4/02



KPRC-2 Houston, TX  
950 mi Es seen 5/30/02



KWKB-20 Iowa City, IA  
300 mi Tr seen June 2002



KQTV-2 St. Joseph, MO  
480 mi Es seen 6/14/02  
"Short hop!"



WFOR-4 Miami, FL  
1130 mi Es seen 6/16/02



KWGN-2 Denver, CO  
1000 mi Es seen 6/21/02



KFQX-4 Grand Junction, CO  
1180 mi Es seen 6/21/02



WGBH-2 Boston, MA  
750 mi Es seen 6/23/02

The following photo is of a clip seen on WFOR-4 (Miami, FL) on 6/23/02. Aaron thought this was interesting because it shows the letters "ES" being torn down, representing the possible future of VHF DXing (HDTV)??



73's,  
Jeff





# SATELLITE NEWS

George W. Jensen  
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SCISATMAN@AOL.COM

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A small column of changes that had the possibility of being enormous for all the wrong reasons. A few may have noticed that on a recent evening a few weeks ago, there was a rather dramatic failure on the major cable satellite Galaxy 1. All even vertical polarity transponders in some sort of manner failed creating a loss of signal from half of the 24 transponders on the bird. The odd numbered horizontal were not totally affected, but did suffer slight power output drops. HBO, Cinemax, Starz/Encore were those greatly effected. Fortunately, the problem, whatever it was, was corrected after a number of hours. Galaxy 1 has been an effective workhorse for the industry for at least 2 decades. This current bird has been in orbit since 1994 and has a 12 year life expectancy. A replacement is in the works as a normal process. At the moment, all is well - NOW to the small number of current changes:-

**Satcom 4** - delete TV Games Network (4DTV 601) - now just old reliable infomercials.

**Satcom 3** - 614 - change Discovery Civilizations to Discovery Times Channel. The following programmers are in an open mode on ANIK F1 KU - 308 - CBC West, 350

- APTN, 351 - Access Alberta, 354 - Knowledge TV, 392 - The Shopping Channel, 393 - British Columbia Legislature, 397 - Ontario Legislature, 200 and 600 - Viewers Choice Pay-Per-View Promo Channels, something new on 681 - anyone know what this is?????, 825 - Voiceprint, 828 - CKUA Edmonton and unknowns on 977 and 978 - anyone know what these are????  
**AMC1** - delete TV Games Network XPDR 23 - now - ho-hum infomercials. Wisdom is now on 683 and 753 appears an open transponder.  
**Telstar 5** - C Band - Nebraska Public Television N3 is PBS's You Channel. Galaxy 3 - Ku Band - 24 - CCTV4 has now returned here.  
**AMC3** - delete Fox Movie Channel to W7 - transponder 7.

That's all for this month. I will do a complete revision of any Audio Subcarriers that are left as well as MPEG2 transmissions in later columns. The changes with the MPEG2 are a lot more than I can keep up with lately. See you in 30 and have some really great DX '73's

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## PREDICTIONS FOR THE 2003 SKIP SEASON

I say we'll have a good year. It can only get better from here! Let's see 12/25/02 - heart attack. 03/30/03 - Laid off from work (first time in 20 years). Wife loses job at end of May or June. So things can only get better, that is if the house don't burn down first!!!

Things have already been picking up - I sold my sailboat to a guy who plans to rebuild it and sail across the Atlantic single-handed!!  
-Guy Falsetti

I agree with Guy. I also was laid off in 2002, and had the whole summer free to catch all of those daytime openings I would normally miss if I were at work. What happened? The worst E-skip season ever for me. Therefore, now

that I'm employed again, I know this year is going to be a great year - but of course, I'll miss most of it since the majority of the openings will be in the morning to noontime period. -Jeff Kruszka

I am not sure of exact dates, but I do know one thing: The likelihood of an early start to the Season is inversely proportional to how quickly I am able to get a temporary antenna in the air. Obviously, as soon as I get something on the air at this new location, I will have to wait at least 2 weeks to make any sort of interesting logging. Won't I?  
-Peter Baskind



## Signing Off

If you've been observant, this farewell edition of "TV Time Tunnel" will not come as a surprise. There were hints, and, of course, the decrease in frequency should also have been a clue.

For those who wonder why I've chosen to conclude this series, I'll explain.

In the first place, I never expected that Time Tunnel would have a 15 year run. It seemed appropriate to bow out on an anniversary.

While I can't honestly say that I've run out of material, I can tell you that I've run out of ambition. I'm now five years into retirement, and my top priority has switched to travel.

Actually, material *is* somewhat of a factor. My 'to be processed' stack is comprised mostly of items that will not reproduce well in the VUD, or would be very difficult to re-format for publication.

While I am fully aware that I'll probably forget someone, I do want to thank everyone who sent ideas and copy over the years. Among the most prolific contributors were Dave Nieman, Bill Eckberg, David Shapiro, Charles Burnham, Robert J. Williams, Jr., and Doug Smith. Your contributions made this a better column.

Over the years we shared a lot of tales. We sampled lots of early ID slides and test patterns, studied the history of television (twice), explored the twists and turns of channel 1, solved the

mystery of Warmley, and failed to determine who really founded channel 11 in Fargo.

Among projects that I had in the 'to do' stack was something Bruce Hall had steered me toward many years ago. He thought that a look at the history of CITY-TV in Toronto would be interesting. I agreed...but even with his help was unable to formulate a cohesive feature. Perhaps you had to be there to appreciate CITY's uniqueness. For those who don't know, the station started out as a flea-powered independent on channel 79. Their grade A radius was barely 25 miles; and their claim to fame was "blue movies". Airing the naughty flicks late at night netted international publicity for CITY-TV.

Among Time Tunnel disasters, I recall two columns in particular. One was titled "DOGS". I thought I had very cleverly skewered several horrid old shows...but I didn't get a single comment. So much for my cleverness and creativity ego trip. The other problem was more of a tech nightmare than anything. As you know, the quality of photos in the VUD has ranged from marginal to abysmal. The latter applied to a beautiful old magazine cover that Jeff Kadet had supplied. The printing process turned it into a huge black blob. Bill Thompson must have been livid!

When I started this feature my intent was to preserve some memories of the early days of DXing. There are still a lot to chronicle, and I hope that another member of the club will find the time and interest to continue this venture.

Meanwhile, I hope that we'll continue to see Bob Cooper's accounts of early DX experiences. The stories don't get any better than his.

Finally, thanks to all who have expressed appreciation for this column. It was your encouragement that made the effort worthwhile.

GooDXing to all!

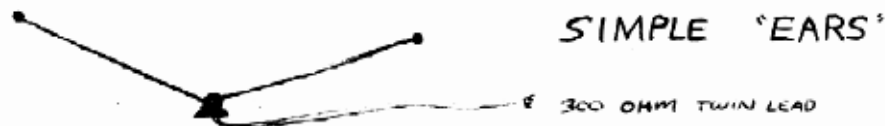
# DXING WITH **INDOOR** ANTENNAS

By Joe Manucci  
(reprinted from the June 1987 VUD)

I am one of those DX nuts whose lifestyle is apartment living. Since I do not have the big bucks for a house, I choose to live in a highrise. Some day, maybe. Anyway, my landlord is actually a faceless corporation who tells me that hanging any form of antenna whatsoever outside my windows will void my lease and lead to my eviction, which would make somebody happy anyway due to the waiting list these kinds of places have.

The bottom line for me and anyone else around my complex be they ham, CBer, or mad scientist is NO ANTENNAS. Here I am, a DXer like a fish out of water so to speak! I had to have some kind of antennas for the E-skip season. In my location the FM band is pretty crowded with several locals 3 to 13 miles away on high towers with powers ranging from 3 to 100 kilowatts. Lowband TV is clear out to 50 miles away, but I've got one hi-bander and a couple of UHFers to contend with.

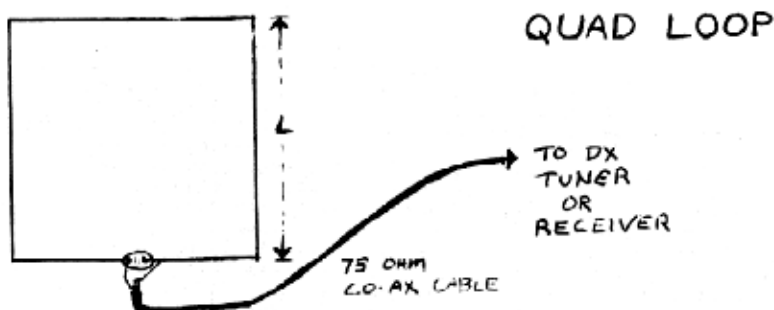
I like to DX E-skip and feel that simple rabbit ears such as the cheapo pair that was supplied with my RCA TV do not do the job, and the experts will back me up on this. It seems that such 'ears' are just plain not big enough to capture enough signal at channel 2--not enough "Capture Area" as they say. Even a halfwave dipole at that channel would be longer than 10 feet across--and that would just be "unity" gain, or if you talk decibels, zero db of gain. Fortunately though, for E-skip one does not have to have a lot of gain on the antenna--a good amount of Capture Area is better.



I did get a dipole with my FM tuner (Realistic), but it really is not too much better than the TV rabbit ears, simply a piece of 300 ohm ribbon twin lead cut for somewhere around the middle of the FM band. Again this can't ever have more than zero db gain. I HAVE Found that the Radio Shark 15-1636 Triple Drive 6 element FM antenna will work fair to good for strong E-skip DX inside an apartment. If you have enough space for it and a way to rotate (hang it from the ceiling maybe??) and will even work fair for TV E-skip, beating most rabbit ear antennas.

I have tried indoor antenna amplifiers for the FM band. Forget them. If you have any locals at all they are not worth the trouble. If anyone in the club has ever had good results with an indoor antenna amplifier, I would like to see you write it up for the V.U.D. I do understand that the Magnum unit from Canada (which is expensive) will work and this is because they are tuneable pre-selectors rather than broadband amplifiers.

Word has it that the home-brew 'Quad' loops built by some members do also work quite a bit better than simple rabbit ears, and they may offer a bit of improved gain also. They are easy to build, you can even build them out of lamp cord. The idea is simple; each side on the loop is equal to one-quarter wavelength of the frequency you design it for. You connect the loop to 75 ohm coax cable, then run the cable to your TV receiver:

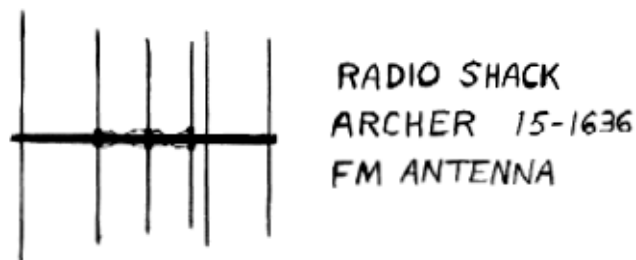


Of course since you have to use the coax you will also have to use a balun at the antenna terminals of your TV or FM DX tuner but not on the Quad loop itself, since the center conductor and outer shield is connected directly to the ends of the loop. Use an insulator, like the type sold for use in shortwave and ham longwire antennas, made of porcelain, glass or similar type material.

This kind of loop is cut to the wavelength of the channel or group of frequencies you make it for, and you can make it out of the relatively cheap electrical lamp cord wire you can buy at the hardware store. Or you can make it out of shortwave antenna wire, but you have to be careful with it as such wire is not insulated,

The theory of the loop is that each side "L" is equal to one-quarter wavelength, determined by the formula  $248$  divided by the frequency of the channel you are making the antenna for. This is sort of like a folded dipole antenna in that it is fairly broadband so it can be made for more than one channel, but it does not have the same kind of bandwidth or impedance of a regular folded dipole.

For channel 2, the L equals 54 inches; channel 3, 49"; channel 4, 40"; channel 5 39"; channel 6, 36" FM band center = 31"; 107.9 mhz - 28". The nice thing about this simple loop is that you can hang it on a wall and it DOES beat the results of rabbit ears. If you cut another loop and connect the ends together without an insulator, you can mount it a couple feet behind the quad loop and use it like the reflector element on a yagi antenna, to give more gain in addition to making the pickup more directional. This would mean that you'd have to make a wooden frame to support the thing, but it still would be easier to mount and turn inside your apartment than a small yagi would; and as the experts say, better than many yagi antennas for E-skip reception.



For my E-skip reception I plan to use the Radio Shack Triple Drive 6 element inside my apartment again this summer. It is cut for the FM band, but it will pickup a good amount of skip on the low band TV channels when conditions are right. I feel that my FM receiver being much more sensitive than the TV set is my main E-skip tuner anyway, and use an A/B switch to go over to FM when it climbs to 88 mhz.

One nice thing you can do with indoor antennas such as rabbit ears or the Quad loops is to quickly turn them ninety degrees on their sides to check for vertical polarized skip signals. Let's see you guys with outside yagis do that trick. It can be done with outdoor antennas, but you need either a second special rotor on the antenna boom or another separate vertical mounted antenna. Vertical polarization is useful sometimes because the skip comes in more on the vertical side than the horizontal in certain intense openings, especially some of the ones that hit In July. Having a vertical polarized antenna also is a big help to cut down on the local signal too, as this will be mainly horizontal. If you have strong, local channels 2 & 4 on TV for instance, turning the loop or ears vertical may cut way down on the slopover on 3. You may be able to hear some DX on the FM channels adjacent to your 100 KW local FM this way too.

So you see, good E-skip results can be had without antennas up on the roof. The same is not necessarily true about tropo and Meteor DX but I'll settle for a good E-skip opening anytime as Es just is not as predictable and to my way of thinking, more fun because of this fact. In a halfway decent year you will find E-Skip adding stations to your log totals very quickly as there are many targets waiting for you in that 450 to 1300 mile single hop skip zone especially on the FM band,

Someday I plan to buy my dream house but until that point I am an indoor antenna doer. Just because I am stuck in a highrise doesn't mean that I can't get good DX results. E-skip is one type of VHF wave propagation that does not require huge expensive outdoor antennas and I prove that every summer sometimes even a few times in winter. I would like to see how all of you other fellow club members who are stuck in apartments and condos make due. Maybe WTFDA HQ should take a poll and find out how many of our members cannot put up outside antennas! Write up your suggestions and results in the V.U.D. and let's show those DXers with tall towers and stacked arrays just how much you can do with simple inside antennas! 73s!!!!

# FM NEWS

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## ABBREVIATIONS:

AFA: American Family Association  
CC: **call letter** change&: satellite programming  
CL: **city of license** change  
CX: a **construction permit** has been **canceled**  
C1,C2,etc: a change in status to that  
FM license **class**  
DA: **directional antenna**  
DE: station has been **deleted**  
FC: **format change**  
GA: **granted amendment** to the table of  
FM allocations  
GE: **granted extension** of construction permit  
GX: **granted replacement** of expired permit  
LC: **license to cover** filed  
(means station is ready to come on air)  
MC: **multiple-city** legal ID  
NC: **no change** yet on a reported change/permit

ND: **non-directional** antenna  
NO: **not on the air**  
NS: **new station** granted  
NW: **new station** signs on  
OSA: **one-step application** granted for change  
PA: **proposed amendment** to change FM  
table of allocation  
PC: **power change** on the air ("**>**" for increase,  
"**<**" for decrease, when known)  
PG: **power change** granted ("**>**" for increase,  
"**<**" for decrease, when known)  
QC: **frequency change** occurred  
QG: **frequency change** granted  
RA: silent station **returns to air**  
RE: station **requests extension** on permit  
RX: station **requests replacement** of expired permit  
SG: **slogan change** or update  
SI: **station is silent**  
XA: **dismissed amendment** to FM allocations  
XC: **transmitter site change** occurred  
XG: **transmitter site change** granted



## ALABAMA:

Eufaula: WRVX 97.9, FC to R&B, SC to "**Power 98.**"  
Muscle Shoals: WMXV 103.5, QC (ex 97.7),  
CC (ex WKGL),  
Tuscaloosa: WANZ 100.5,  
SC as "**Z-100.5, Bama's Best Rock.**"

## ALASKA:

Houston: KRPM 96.3, FC to Classic Rock,  
SC to "**Pure Retro 96.3**" (Anchorage)  
Kasilof: KWVK 89.5 NW  
Kasilof: KWMD 90.5 NW  
Sterling: KRAW 90.1 NW

## ARIZONA:

Fountain Hills: KLVK 89.1, CC (ex KDKL),  
SC to "**K-Love**" (Phoenix)

## ARKANSAS:

Hope: KJMY 101.7, CC (ex KTXO) .  
Jacksonville: KDJE 100.3, CC (ex KQAR),  
SC "**The Edge**", (Little Rock)  
Malvern: KLEZ 101.5, CC (ex KISI)  
Maumelle: KMSX 94.9, CC (ex KOLL),  
FC to "**The Mix**" (Little Rock) .

## CALIFORNIA:

Barstow : KWITH 91.3 NW  
Coalinga: KDKL 88.3, CC (ex KLVK)  
Cloverdale: KSRT 107.1, FC to dance top 40,  
SC to "**Jammin 107.1**"  
Greenville: KPJP 89.3 NW.  
Monte Rio: KVRV 97.7, CC (ex KMGG),  
SC "**the River**"  
Ojai: KFYV 105.5, CC (ex KKBE),  
FC to top-40, SC to "**Live 105.5**" (Santa Barbara)  
Ontario: KZBA 93.5, CC (ex KFSB),

FC to Regional Mexican, SC as "**La Sabrosa 93.5**"  
Pacific Grove: KOCN 105.1, FC to R&B oldies  
Redondo Beach: KZAB 93.5, CC (ex KFSG),  
FC to Regional Mexican, SC as "**La Sabrosa 93.5**"

## COLORADO:

Ridgway: KBNG 103.7 NW, hot AC.  
Steamboat Springs: KTAH 88.5 NW  
Sterling KTUV 90.7 NW

## FLORIDA:

Cross City: WKZY 106.9, FC to 80's mix (Gainesville)  
Fernandina Beach: WXGV 105.3 changes calls to WJS  
Sarasota: WTZB 105.9, CC (ex WSRQ),  
SC to "**105.9 the Buzz**"  
St. Augustine Beach: WSJF 105.5, CC (ex WYGV) .

## GEORGIA:

Bainbridge: WRAK 97.3, CC (ex WFXF) (Albany)  
Cairo: WWLD 102.3, FC to R&B,  
SC to "**Blazin' 102.3.**"  
(Thomasville GA/Tallahassee FL)  
Canton: WLCL 105.7, CC (ex WMXV),  
SC to "Cool 105-7" (Atlanta), classic hits  
Hinesville: WSGA 104.7 has flipped to talk.  
Savannah: WZAT 102.1, FC to hot AC,  
SC as "Z-102."  
Yates: WWBM 89.7 NW

## HAWAII:

Keaau: KHIK 105.1 NW (Hilo)

## IDAHO:

Jordan Valley: KIDH 90.9, CC (ex KARO)  
Nyssa: KARO 98.7, CC (ex KGZH)

## ILLINOIS:

Fairbury: WYST 107.7 has flipped from classic hits to  
AC.  
Mt. Carmel: WKRI 94.9, FC to country,  
simulcasting WYNG 105.3 (Evansville IN)  
Mount Vernon: WIBV 102.1, FC to AC,  
SC to "**B-102.**"  
Metropolis: WRIC 98.3, FC to AC, SC as "K-98."

## INDIANA:

Crawfordsville: WCDQ 106.3, CC (ex WVXI), FC to hot AC,  
SC to "CD-106.3"  
Evansville: WJLT 105.3, CC (ex WYNG), FC to modern country,  
SC as "Lite 105.3"  
Wadesville: WRFM 90.1, CC (ex WXTZ),

## KANSAS:

Pratt: KHMV 93.1, CC (ex KDGB)

## KENTUCKY:

Morehead: WIVY 96.3, CC (ex WIKO), FC to soft AC,  
SC to "Ivy 96.3" .  
Owensboro: WSTO 96.1, SC as "**Hot 96.**" (Evansville)

## LOUISIANA:

De Ridder: KNUF 92.1, FC to adult R&B,  
// KVEE 107.5 Lake Charles LA, .  
Lacombe: WPRF 94.7, CC (ex WXXF),  
FC to Black gospel "**Praise**" simulcast //WOPR 94.9  
Reserve: WOPR 94.9, CC (ex WXXM), // WPRF 94.7  
(New Orleans).

## MAINE:

Milbridge:WRMO 93.7 NW

## MASSACHUSETTS:

Scituate: WSMA 90.5 NW  
Taunton: WSNE 93.3, SC to "**Coast 93-3.**" (Providence RI)

## MICHIGAN:

Atlanta: WFDX 92.5, CC (ex WBYC), SC "**The Fox**"  
Leland: WFCX 94.3, CC (ex WBYB), SC "**The Fox**" .

## MISSISSIPPI:

Greenville: WMSB 91.5 NW  
Grenada: WOHD 92.3 NW, AC,  
"Star 92.3."

## MISSOURI:

Caruthersville :KCRV 105.1, CC (ex KLOW)  
Kirksville: KKTR 89.7 NW,  
//KBIA 91.3 Columbia MO (NPR)  
Lamar: KHST 101.7, FC to rock,  
SC to "New Rock 101."  
Poplar Bluff: KLUE 103.5, CC (ex KZMA),  
FC to AC, SC to "Clue 103.5" .

## MONTANA:

Dillon: KDWG 90.9, NW, variety, "**the Dawg**"  
Great Falls: KEHT 100.3, CC (ex KRYZ)  
Pinesdale: KBQQ 106.7, CC (ex KSXZ)

## NEBRASKA:

Imperial: KJBL 102.9, CC (ex KURK)  
Scottsbluff: KLJV 88.3, NW, Contemporary Christian,  
"**K-Love**"

## NEW JERSEY:

Belvidere: WWYY 107.1, RA, FC to AC,  
SC as "**Lite 107.1.**"

## NEW MEXICO:

Belen: KVLK 90.9 NW  
Clovis: KRMQ 101.5 NW

## NEW YORK:

89.7 Dannemora NY takes calls: WKVJ  
Blink!: New York's WNEW 102.7 ended more than two months of stunting tonight when it launched its new format, "Blink 102.7." Aimed at female listeners aged 18-30, "Blink" will mix top 40 music with a heavy dose of entertainment talk. The "quadcast" on 107.1 in the New York City area has been broken up, as Nassau prepares to take over and spin off several of the stations. WYNY 107.1 Briarcliff Manor NY, going to Pamal, has changed calls to WXPX and is simulcasting top 40 WSPK 104.7 Poughkeepsie NY. WWXY 107.1 Hampton Bays NY is simulcasting Jarad's modern AC WLIR 92.7 Garden City NY. And with the demise of Big City's "Rumba 107" format, WWYY 107.1 Belvidere NJ and WWZY 107.1 Long Branch NJ are temporarily silent. WLCL 107.3 South Bristol/Rochester NY is now WFXF ("Fox") and rock

## NORTH CAROLINA:

Hatteras: WYND 97.1, CC (ex WNHW),  
SC as "**The Wind**"  
Nags Head: WZPR 92.3, CC (ex WYND),  
FC to top 40, SC to "**Power 92.3**"  
Robbins: WLHC 103.1 NW

## NORTH DAKOTA:

Bismarck: KNRI 89.7 NW  
Harwood: KDJZ 100.7, CC (ex KGBZ),  
FC to Smooth Jazz, SC as "**Smooth Jazz 100.7**"  
Lincoln: KVLQ 89.1 NW  
Wahpeton: KEGK 106.9, FC to oldies,  
SC as "**Eagle 106.9.**"

## OHIO:

Fairview: WUSE 93.9, CC (ex WRPL),  
FC to modern country, SC to "US-93.9" (Erie)  
Galion: WFXN 102.3, CC (ex WXFN) (Mansfield)  
Greenville: WDJO 106.5, CC (ex WBKI) (Dayton) .  
Norwalk: WNRK 90.7 NW  
Troy: WOKL 96.9, CC (ex WRNB),  
SC as "K-Love"  
Wauseon: WXQQ 96.9, NW (Toledo)  
West Carrollton: WRNB 92.1, CC (ex WROU)

## OKLAHOMA:

Stigler: KTKL 88.5, NW, contemporary Christian,  
K-Love

## OREGON:

Bend: KVLB 90.5, CC (ex KYBN),  
FC to contemporary Christian, SC to K-Love  
Eugene: KNRQ 97.9, SC as "Rock 97-9 NRQ."  
Molalla: KRSK 105.1, SC "**105.1 the Buzz.**" (Portland)  
Tillamook: KTMK 91.1 NW

## PENNSYLVANIA:

Linesville: WMVL. 101.7, CC (ex WVCC)

## SOUTH CAROLINA:

Georgetown: WXJY 93.7, RA, FC to ESPN,  
SC to "**The Team**" (Myrtle Beach)

## TENNESSEE:

Millington: WSRR 98.1, FC to Classic rock,  
SC as "**98.1 The Cat**" (Memphis)

## TEXAS:

Bloomington: KHVT 91.5, NW  
Commerce: KYJC 91.3 NW  
Dallas: KLLI 105.3, CC (ex KYNG),  
SC to "**Live 105.3**"

Gatesville: KVLZ 98.3, CC ( ex KASZ)  
Georgetown: KINV 107.7, CC (ex KTND) , FC to regional Mexican,  
SC to "**La Invasora**" (Austin)  
Marble Falls: KXXS 104.9, FC to Regional Mexican,  
SC to "**Lo Mejor**"  
Port Isabel: KNVO 101.1, CC (ex KVPA), FC to Spanish soft AC,  
SC to "**Radio Romantica**"  
Snyder: KLYD 98.9 NW, modern rock

## UTAH

Kanab: KPLD 101.1, CC (ex KHUL) (St. George)  
St. George: KAER 89.3 NW

## VIRGINIA:

Norfolk: WCMS 100.5, FC to classic country  
Petersburg: WARV 100.3, FC to ESPN sports (Richmond)

## WASHINGTON:

Spokane: KZBD 105.7, CC (ex KAEP),  
SC as "the Buzzard". FC to classic rock format.

## WEST VIRGINIA:

Catlettsburg: WRVC 92.7, FC to rock,  
FC as "**92.7 the Planet**" (Huntington)

## WISCONSIN:

DePere: WKSZ 95.9, FC to hot AC,  
SC as "Mix 95.9" (Green Bay)  
Durand: WDMO 95.9, CC (ex WJRV)

## WYOMING:

Diamondville: KDWY 105.3 NW, modern country,  
"**the Diamond.**"



## NOVA SCOTIA:

## ONTARIO:

CKDJ 96.9 Nepean ON has moved to 107.9.

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# Taping DX with a DVD Recorder!

**BILL HEPBURN**

For the past 14 years I've been taping my DX on a JVC HR-D630U VCR...and more recently added a Samsung SV-5000W "World TV Signal Rx" VCR as well. I guess you all know too well the shortcomings of videotaping DX.

I just recently broke down and bought a Panasonic DMR-E30 DVD Video Recorder. I thought I'd snag one before motion picture copyright restrictions potentially handicap decks like this. This unit basically replaces the VCR as it has an NTSC tuner and uses DVD-RAM disks...which are rewritable 100,000 times (vs. 1,000 times for DVD-RW) and can be recorded and erased on the fly just like a video-cassette can.

DVD-RAM is awesome. You can record programs and then trim them down to size. This means that you can record a lengthy DX session and then trim it later to only include the DX bits (IDs, etc) saving space. With 2 edits, you can even trim down one DX session that has 2 separate DXworthy bits and only keep them. Amazing! You can divide programs in half if you want (though you can't combine any). Editing is as easy as pie as there are different speeds varying from frame by frame to 100 X speed. The speed search is a big plus. And the search is absolutely stable - there's no jumping/sync bars/etc. After editing, you can give the program a name for later reference. All programs are listed on a menu so you can go straight to your exact DX catch later on. If your whole DX recording had no DX and was pointless, then you can simply erase it. Imagine recording an hour's worth of meteor scatter DX...then reviewing all of it in only 36 seconds and then editing and only keeping the one 10-second MS burst that occurred. Awesome! Each DVD-RAM disk is the size of a standard DVD disk. There are 4 taping speeds.

Standard speed is 2 hours/disk. Others are 1 hour, 4 hours & 6 hours. I find SP is great for DX. Record

format is MPEG-2. Each disk costs about US \$7. There are also DVD-RAM cartridges that have twice as much recording time. Cost of the DVD video recorder was US \$550. I haven't seen any VD-RAM drives on computers (though I suppose there are some) - so this DVD-RAM stuff is relatively new.

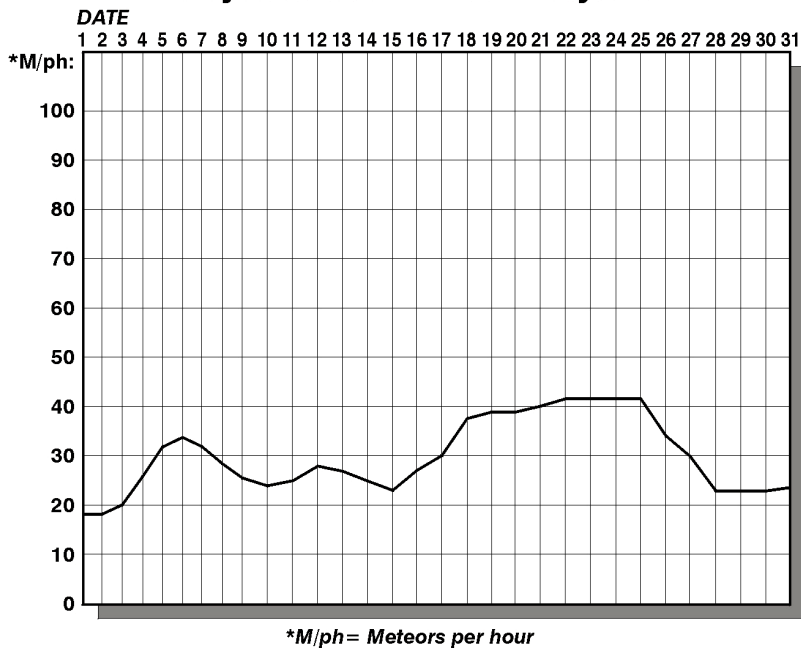
There are a few odd effects found when recording DX digitally. Ghosty pictures will show weird tears in the video as will some very weak signals, but signals stay synced and at least they record! And usually in colour! In fact, the tuner has colour snow. I tried dubbing my smeary Venezuela F2 DX from videotape and it managed to record on DVD looking almost identical in quality.

The tuner isn't too bad at all - average sensitivity, although it's output has obviously gone through an analog->digital processor (as do the video inputs). This causes the above-mentioned tears in weak video at times. The tuner shows moderate & strong channels instantly but hiccups on weaker channels, but they do eventually show up. Not that big a deal since it still does a better job than the VCRs I've owned. I'll use the main TV for scanning for DX, then the DVD tuner for recording. The tuner apparently has no AFC which is a big plus for adjacent channels - selectivity is average but no AFC makes it seem better. Blue screen is defeatable in the menu, so the snow and hiss come in with all their glory. You can also record both the main stereo audio and SAP, if there is a SAP channel. Too bad the tuner doesn't have XDS. Beggars can't be choosers though.

I'm hooked! I'll be recording all of my DX tapes onto DVDs now to save them before the tapes deteriorate. Now if only there was some DX to record.

# Meteor Scatter Guide

## May 2003 Meteor Scatter Projections



Meteor scatter for the months of May and June are for the weak of heart.....or maybe, just the 'weak of staying awake' in the wee hours of the morning. May and June both have the best DAYTIME meteor showers of the year. So, if you've been dying to try some meteor scatter dxing, but just can't stay up late, or have a hard time getting out of bed early, then you'll love the end of May and the early part of June.

The Omicron Cetids, which runs from May 7<sup>th</sup> through June 9<sup>th</sup>, has a long peak cycle. It peaks May 14<sup>th</sup> through the 25<sup>th</sup>, with an average rate of 18 meteors per hour.

Another meteor shower with a lesser amount of meteors, runs parallel to the Cetids. It is the May Piscids, running from the 4<sup>th</sup> through the 27<sup>th</sup>. It peaks on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, with an average of 8 meteors per hour. Between those two showers, there should be some decent scatter activity for anybody, mornings to early afternoons.

But get ready for the DAYTIME big daddy of the year. The Arietids, which runs from May 22<sup>nd</sup> through July 2<sup>nd</sup>, cranks out some awesome meteor scatter power on June 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. It will easily peak with 60 meteors per hour, by far, the daytime 'monster' of the year.

And did you see when June 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> are? Saturday and Sunday. What also adds to the excitement is the fact that the number two daytime meteor shower rides right on the heels of the Arietids. The Zeta Perseids, running from May 20<sup>th</sup> through July 5<sup>th</sup>, peaks on June 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> with an impressive 40 meteors per hour. So when you add it up, from right around June 5<sup>th</sup>, all the way up to the 15<sup>th</sup>, daytime meteor showers will be number one. If you throw some good tropo conditions in there, with maybe some surprise E-skip, and who knows.....it might be a fun June!

### ***Dxers are listening to the Lyrids meteors!***

#### **Jim Thomas, Milliken, Colorado**

Geo Prism car radio (modified with two 110 khz filters)

Date: 4-23-03

Listening period - 1 1/2 hours - 93.9 MHz

0638 "Eagle 93.9" (KSSZ MO Fayette - NEW)  
- 662 miles

0639 hip hop/rap music ???

0641 "93.9 The Mountain. (business name)  
makes Flagstaff

the tradition....(fade)" (KMGH AZ Flagstaff -  
NEW) - 522 miles

0701 complete ad for Cary's Car Company  
(but no mention of city)

0701 755-3307 (dance track with dj  
voiceover of some club) ???

0705 religious program (WPFR IN Clinton or  
KBNU TX Uvalde)

0712 hip hop music again ???

0753 "Right here on Corpus Christi's number  
1 radio station...."

(KMXR TX Corpus Christi - relog, prev. by Es)  
- 964 miles

0754 popped in with an ad mentioning  
"....Texas law office...." ???

#### **Steve Solomon, Yarmouthport, MA**

Yamaha T-85

Channel Master 4408 at 28 Feet.

Date: 4-23-03

WXTA 97.9 PA Edinboro

(On Wednesday at 11:15AM, I IDed WXTA 97.9 from Cape Cod (500 miles). I heard the following "On my Erie.net", which sure enough when I went there the station was proudly advertised! - SS)



R1 Termination Resistor 100 ohm

# Traveling Wave E-Skip Vertical Anti-Antenna

J. Gould 4/18/2003

1 wavelength coax section  
RG-59 Foam 8' 0"

This Traveling Wave antenna uses two, one wavelength sections that work against one another, causing a sharp null towards the horizon. If care is taken to make sure all lengths are identical the horizon signals should be down by 30 to 50 db.(i.e. locals/semilocals) Skip signals coming in at a high enough angle could come in with as much as 9 db gain, (over a dipole) producing perhaps as much as 60db signal difference, favoring skip signals over locals, as compared to a normal whip antenna. More likely, the inclined angles of most skip signals are not more than a few degrees, which might give only 10 - 15 db favor for skip signals. Of interest, many double-hop signals include a short-hop. If the short hop occurs on the receiver side, the antenna might favor the double hop signal.

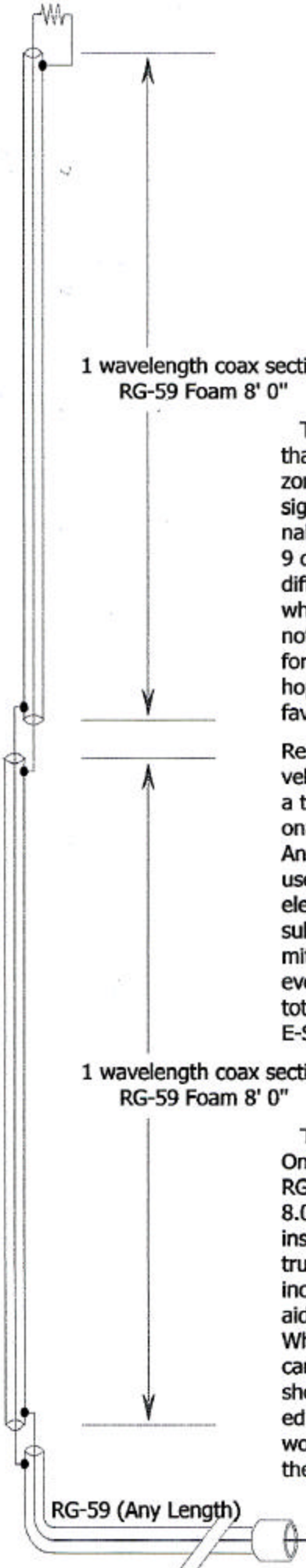
Remember that all of this is just theory, as only the 2-half wave traveling wave antenna has been constructed and used. Nevertheless, a traveling wave antenna has a sharper main lobe than a similar resonant type of antenna, (The Channel Master 10 Ele Traveling Wave Antenna had the narrowest lowband main lobe of any antenna I ever used, including a lowband yagi) and the vertical stacking of 1/2 wave elements in this case sharpens the vertical lobe even more. The result is that the antiphasing null toward the horizon is quite sharp, permitting a significant response in the 1st lobe above the horizon null, even at low elevation angles. It is worth noting that this antenna is totally worthless to anyone other than a totally dedicated WTFDA FM E-Skip DXer who doesn't mind experimenting.

1 wavelength coax section  
RG-59 Foam 8' 0"

## Construction

The Antenna is constructed with foam RG-59 that has copper braid. One free air wavelength at 98 mhz is 10 ft. One wavelength in foam RG-59 coax with a velocity factor of 80% is 8.0 ft. The 1 wavelength 8.0 ft sections should be cut to 8 ft 1 inch, with 1/2 inch of braid and insulation removed from each end, leaving the center conductor protruding 1/2inch on each side. The outer insulation is stripped back 1/4 inch, exposing the end 1/4 inch of braid on all ends. The exposed braid is carefully tinned with excess solder, as is the center conductor. When the ends are joined,The outer 1/4 inch of center conductor is carefully soldered to the braid on each piece. Shrink tubing or tape should be applied to the joint. The terminating resistor should be added in a like manner. Fight the urge to remove the resistor as it will not work without it. The coax from the antenna can run all of the way to the receiver, or a short piece of RG-59 with "F" connector feeding a double female adaptor can serve as the connection point. Once all electrical connections are made, the resistor and cable are slid into a 16 ft length of 1/2 inch (ID) PVC plumbing pipe. You might have to use two sections of pipe joined together. A plumbing Tee at the bottom can be used to feed the coax to the outside world, and a cap on the top would complete the antenna. The cable outlet should be sealed with silicone. One last thought; This 98 mhz Anti-Antenna should make a decent F2 Antenna with 3 - 6 db gain for 44 mhz thru 54 mhz

RG-59 (Any Length)



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## Bob Cooper's Thoughts on the 2003 DX Season

The Es season. Apparently in North America the amount of month-of-April Es has attracted some attention and those who live dangerously are offering prognostications about the season. Two facts:

#1) Es has been measured in one way or another from 1933-1934, through seven solar cycles (averaging 11 years each). Profiles measuring the frequency of occurrence of Es and alternately the percentage of the observing time during which Es exceeds (pick a number: 50 MHz, 100 MHz, 150 MHz or any you like) a specific frequency have been recorded, plotted, and carefully studied. If you analyse plots based upon "total minutes of Es" exceeding 50 MHz, you come to the conclusion that the highest such annual numbers occur in the year, next year or next -next year following a solar maximum. That says 2002/2003/2004 either taken together or individually should have

more Es than we have experienced going back to at least 1993/ 1994/ 1995 and more likely back to 1982/1983/ 1984 as there are indications that this particular measurement cycle runs to 22 years, not 11.

#2) This is April. In the northern hemisphere my April is the same as your October which will help you identify with what follows. In the 12 years I have lived here in the southern hemisphere, the month of April - your October - has averaged under 4 days of Es observations (45 MHz and above). This April - the one we are now in - has had Es which I have noted in my log book on 11 days so far and the month is not finished (April 26th locally). The longest duration this month has been in excess of 7 hours of Es which all by itself exceeds by a factor of two the "normal April" cumulative total time. Does any of this suggest you northern guys are in for a bang-up summer? I think so!

Bob Cooper in New Zealand

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