

# From The STAFF

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BBBBBBBB!...The Winter of '85 has been terrible for many WTFDAers. Severe weather has caused some DXers to make plans for new antenna systems they'll be needing, due to some high winds and heavy icing. You may be reading this issue a few days later than usual due to delays in production related to all the rotten weather. We think this edition may be one of the most interesting mid-winter VUDs in many years, so we hope you'll excuse us, read on, and enjoy!

A NEW WTFDA TV STATION GUIDE?...EASTERN TV DX columnist Bill Draeb has completed a rough draft of the data for a new edition of this popular book, which has been out of stock for many months. However, much work remains to be done on the project. Rising printing and shipping costs now determine how long it will take for this DXing reference to be completed, and its unique stations-by-channel maps will make this book much more suited to the TV DX enthusiast than any other reference, while taking additional time to complete. Your comments are welcome on this project anytime--and a big thanks goes to Bill for his work!

GDXCI TV LOGBOOK...Speaking of such references, Gateway DX Club International, a St. Louis DX group, needs help from the WTFDA membership in compiling the first edition of the GDXCI TV Logbook. WTFDAer Rich Eddie (GDXCI TV Corner editor) can be contacted about this at 152 West Rose, St. Louis MO 63119.

SUSTAINING MEMBER PROGRAM...Who really keeps a DX club going strong? Besides the volunteers who do the work, there are those who contribute more than than usual and practically are never acknowledged. WTFDA has a number of these great people as members, and many of them prefer to remain anonymous. For these folks, we've created the Sustaining Membership. For anyone contributing \$10 or more to the club (in the form of funds or supplies such as mailing labels, envelopes, etc.) in addition to their basic dues, we'll award a certificate suitable for framing. No one in WTFDA is expected to pay any more than the basic dues rate, but we've been looking for a way to thank those who do this when they renew every year. More about this in upcoming issues.

NEW ORLEANS '85...Early August 1985 may be all of 6 months from now, but as they say, time flies. Start thinking now about attending your club's convention in the Greater New Orleans area this summer--it's one of the South's most enjoyable tourist destinations, and the site of one of our most enjoyable past conventions. See y'all there!

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Logos on pages 11 and 21 are from Richard Eddie, St. Louis MO.



# MAILBOX

February 1985

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I had figured that my editorial last month concerning Doug Dornbos' column would elicit some response, and I wasn't disappointed. So, here are excerpts from the letters of those who wrote in with their comments:

**Wendell Ford:** "I think that Doug Dornbos' comments in the December issue of VHF-UHF Digest were very appropriate, especially at the time of year. If it were in July I'd admit that it would be out of place... I do not think that the religious reference in one issue per year is going to hurt the feelings of the "religion-free" people in the club."

**Bill Draeb:** "It would be nice to eliminate all religious comments from the VUD; that way no one would be offended. However, in our everyday lives we run across things that we don't agree with or don't like, but we have to live with them or ignore them, and most of us have no trouble with that. That's why I see no big deal about Doug's poem. After all, why do we celebrate Christmas anyway? I suppose if I asked the average "Joe" on the street, I would get more than one answer, but I shouldn't. Christmas is the celebration of the birthday of Christ. If some people disagree or think it's just another day off from work, that's their business; and if Doug wants to share the real meaning of the holiday season, he's entitled to. Those who feel offended shouldn't read it or should ignore it."

Although it was meant only in jest, I didn't appreciate Bill Fahber's comments equating Mondale - Ferraro with the Three Stooges. But, like I said, you have to ignore stuff like that if you don't like it."

**Dr. Bruce Elving:** "On the subject of religion, I think it is fine to express one's faith in a club column. The club is a private organization and the editors are donating of their time. Some people may be offended, but it is a Christian's right and even responsibility to share the faith and even to proselytize. I object, however, to many of my fellow Christians thinking that this is a "Christian nation", thus justifying trying to get legislation to mandate prayer in the public schools, or even a moment of silence. These efforts strike me as being at variance with the Constitution and it's protections of minority viewpoints, as well as the doctrine of separation of church and state."

**John F. Combs:** "To be honest, I feel that anyone who is offended by Doug's poem is overreacting. It would be a sad day in this country if we lost the right to express our individual religious faith, or lack of it. While I agree that the VUD is not a religious forum, and should not be used as such, the innocent nature of Doug's poem makes any protest fatuous. A person's religious faith has a lot to do with a person's character and personality, and denying him the right to express that faith in a non-threatening way is to deny him the right to express a very important part of himself."

Next month: Back to the logging procedures debate, with comments by Dr. Elving and Harry Hayes; plus much, much more!

Till then, '73s,





Contributors, January, 1985 VUD: Frank Aden, Jr., Boise ID; Thomas V. Cornell, Greentown IN; Chuck Crisler, Greenwood AR; John Ebeling, Bloomington MN; Joseph Fela, South Plainfield NJ; Bill Fletcher, Madison WI; Wendell Ford, Westville IN; Larry Fuss, Jackson GA; Al Germond, Columbia MO; Robert Grant, Detroit MI; Paul E. Hake, Bridgeport TX; Robert Hughes, West Haver PA; John M. Jefferson, Pleasanton CA; Robert A. Linder, Dover NJ; Nick Lombardi, Atlanta GA; Wayne Mc Cormick, KSMT (FM) Breckenridge CO; W. R. McIntosh, Granada Hills CA; George Mileon, Lynn MA; Raymond J. Nemeec, Naperville IL; David J. Nieman, Akron NY. Also Peter A. Nolan, Galveston TX; Gary Olson, Lake Forest IL; Michael Parks, Amery WI; Jim Pizzi, Lovington NM; Richard Reese, Jersey Shore PA; Jeff Scolnick, Westford MA; Jim Simpson, Guilman AL; Richard J. Steinberger, Hudson MA; Peter V. Taylor, San Francisco CA; Stephen Tuura, St. Catharines ON; Don Wilkerson, Redwood City CA; Dan R. Wilkie, York ME.

My IBM Composer broke down right after typing last month's column, so in the meantime I have this manual Hermes standard type-writer with two ribbons, 17-pitch. Hope this is readable!

"WJLB's claim to being the only beautiful music station in the area is only partially correct, since listeners in the western suburbs can hear WSRS from Worcester quite well while those in the southern suburbs can hear WKW-FM from Providence and WQRC from Barnstable. Incidentally, Boston's suburbs have approximately five times the population of Boston itself," says Larry Weil. WQZ asking listeners to call 617-266-0010 and tell them what they would like to hear; so Larry asked for jazz. He works as an engineer for SEVEN (WNEV-TV Boston), and "spending a lot of time doing volunteer work for the nonsmokers rights movement. . . Thank you for your continued dedication to the hobby of DXing and for the help you provide to all of us through your column and the atlas." [I appreciate the work you are doing in helping to bring about a smoke-free environment; I think far fewer DXers smoke than is true in the general population.] KJBSU \*91.3 Boise hoping either to help start a separate public FM station in Idaho, or getting an NPR affiliation for itself, having both student and professional operation. KCIX 105.9 Boise on 24 hours.

Dave Nieman: "I hope all that I've been reading in your column about the Buffalo, Toronto and Hamilton area on new FM stations is not true. There has not been anything in the Buffalo News about the stations on 89.5 or 101.1." He sent a clipping about WRNJ AM Hackettstown NJ trying to wrest 99.1 from WAWZ (FM) for a station of its own in nearby Somerville NJ. WAWZ said to serve a 40-mile radius, including New York city; WRNJ filed against WAWZ's license in 1981; FCC review board has ruled in favor of WAWZ, and an appeal is expected.

Georgia's WRMM, in deference to owners of digital tuners, now "Warm 99.7," while WSB-FM 98.5 has no plans to change from "99-FM." Nick generally supported my formats for SCA, but says not to list "M" for weather, since no stations are currently using it. He'll add R for ARI tones (Blaupunkt's read information system at 57 kHz), and different letters for 92 kHz from 67 kHz, retention of the + SCA symbol and not using two columns because of problems of column alignment. "I see you got a good writeup in the January Popular Communications, interesting that they imply the book is 'new', when in reality the data are now seven months old!" I also hear Glenn Hauser mentioned the book on his "World of Radio," WRNO and syndicated to public stations. I tried to get the DX show on the talk network during the wee hours of Dec. 15, but no reception from any of the listed stations possible in NE. Even WABC couldn't be separated from KOB.

Dr. Richard Wood on the ABC talk show: "It kept me on my toes, since the questions from listeners were almost inaudible via KABC studio phone link. After KGU 760 Honolulu began carrying the program I listened there to the questions, and got back to the phone for the answer. . . it ran the full five hours."

In other AM news, WQWO 1190 Fort Wayne IN is transmitting test data on an SCA. I tried one night to pull it in, having a good radio on the bench, but could only get KJLA Kansas City, no WQWO available here. WQWO said to be offering the data fulltime, so try hooking your SCA adapters to your AM radio detector, and tell me what it sounds like!

Allen Lloyd, High Point NC, says he operates an FM translator onto a conventional FM radio, using SCA and his own taped programming on "the unorthodox frequency of 108.5 MHz, but am seeking a frequency within the commercial FM band for a larger audience." I shared with him my article which was in the June, 1983, Popular Communications, "How I Built an FM Translator—I even thought it was legal!"

Pete Nolan's "M Street Journal" lists as new stations, but I have seen nothing official on the following:

FL 103.5 Panama City Bay Media, WAMM, Inc., NJ Jersey City

KS 107.9 Great Bend Breadbasket Ent. 105.9, Antonin-Gar-

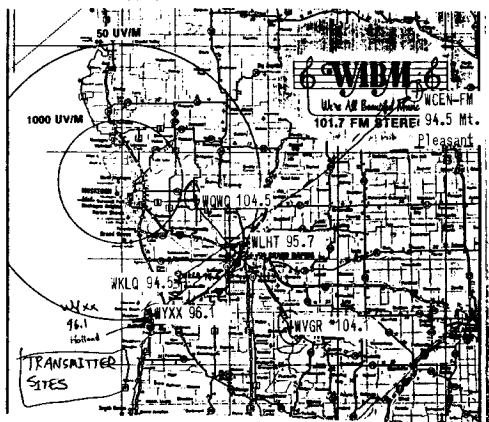
MI 94.7 Gulliver American Peakes, Ltd. 101.1, replaces WHH

Pete says KULM 98.3 Columbus TX drops the satellite, but remains [country]. William L. Scully: "I read your column every month from beginning to end. . . I appreciate getting this information and thank you for your continuing efforts to put the column together month after month."

"Having owned a Sony SRFA-100 since August (and use almost every day on both AM and FM stereo) I feel my own testing has been pretty extensive," says Robert Grant, who has heard separation on 24 AM stereo stations. "I am compelled to respond to comments in 1-85 VUD. I agree with Al Germond that a whistle filter is important. The carrier of an adjacent-channel station causes far more damage than the sidebands of said station. The problem of platform distortion is NOT persistent, it is almost never a problem during the daytime and is not a problem at all where the independent-sideband system is used (as at WQXR New York). . . Sony absolutely did not design the radio to perform poorly on FM so that AM would sound better by comparison. . . p. 11, para. 9: 'A car rx has to be much, much more immune to interference. This can only be done with narrower bandwidth'. I consider this a very cheap excuse for a cheap radio. You can always have a switch for high selectivity when needed, and completely omitting treble to reduce noise is like using a gullotine to cure acne. . . Some of my own observations: 1) skywave signals STINK. Even though the stereo separation may be present, the effects of fading and adjacent-channel interference, as well as just plain noise, are horrendous. . . 2) The industry should really look deep into a noise reduction system. . . Noise reduction, combined with whistle filtration, can greatly extend the distance over which high fidelity AM is possible; 3) The FCC plans to start assigning AMs in the 1610-1700 kHz range in the early '90s, but the whole plan could fall flat on its face if nobody has the new settings on their radios. The FCC should put into effect an all-channel rule as soon as possible, banning AM-only as well as FM-only receivers and mandating full coverage of both bands. A similar law saved UHF television from certain doom in the 1960s. 4) There is a difference in AM stereo systems. . . Let me know how the SCA job in the SRF-A100 goes."

Another Michigan reader, Phil Boersma, says "I've enjoyed your recent columns in the VUD, particularly the January one (yes, I'm still in the WTFDA, even though the computer omitted my name in the January membership list). As a sideline, here's an interesting look at a situation which may be unique in the United States: the case of the station that is 'rim-shotting' its own city of license. The station is WQWR 104.1 Grand Rapids. WQWR's coverage of Grand Rapids is spotty in the northwestern portion of the city and its suburbs, and the reason is interference from WQWQ 104.5 Muskegon. Why WQWR

has to play 'second fiddle' in parts of its own city of license to a station from another town is an interesting part of history. WQWR is old enough to be a 'grandfathered' class C operating in Zone 1. WQWR operates its transmitter with 110 kw ERP at 600' HAAT, from a transmitter site in Middleville (co-located with WQTV-WOOD-FM). WQWR operates from a transmitter site in Ravenna, 42 miles from WQWR's transmitter, but only 15 miles from the Grand Rapids city limits! WQWQ is 50 kilowatts at 360'. WQWQ originally appeared as an application in the mid-1960s. But the frequency originally applied for, and granted to WKJR-FM, now WABM, was 101.7A. But the FCC returned the original application, and told WQWQ to apply as a Class B on 104.5 instead. They did, and the station was granted 104.5 as a class B (this story told me by the original g. m. of WQWQ in the early '70s). WQWQ then utilized a few loopholes in the regulations to place its transmitter as close to Grand Rapids as possible. WQWR is, by power, a class C, but the FCC treated it as a Class B (even though if WQWR actually operated as a class B it would not cover Grand Rapids well enough to be licensed to that city!). Thus, WQWQ was able to place its transmitter in Ravenna— at 42 miles, the minimum B-to-B spacing for 2nd adjacent channels. The result is that in the northwestern portions of metro Grand Rapids (NW GR, Walker, to name two places) WQWQ's signal strength exceeds that of WQWR's.



WQWR is bothered by—or even drowned out by—WQWQ, particularly on less-selective radios, car radios, and ones with AFC; this occurs even in parts of Grand Rapids itself. If WQWR had been a well-financed, commercial operation, WQWQ would never have gotten away with placing its transmitter so close to Grand Rapids. But as it was (and still is) WQWR is a financially neglected 'little sister' to educational WUOM in Ann Arbor, serving only as a glorified translator. Apparently WUOM doesn't care that at least 1/3 of Grand Rapids can't even receive WQWR properly; that WQWR is 'rim-shotting' parts of its own city of license.

"Another nifty allocations boondoggle: both FMs licensed to Holland. WKLQ 94.5 is short-spaced to co-channel WXTI Milwaukee, and very short-spaced to co-channel WQCN-FM Mount Pleasant, technically a class C station! And yet, WKLQ is allowed full class B power and height (50 kw at 500') from its site in Borculo MI. North of Grand Rapids, the battle between WQCN-FM and WKLQ on car radios can be fierce! Also, WYXX 96.1 Holland is short-spaced to co-channel WHNN, a class C in Bay City, and 2nd adjacent WLHT 95.7, which until recently was located in WESTERN Grand Rapids, a transmitter site only 25 miles from WYXX! Again, the 'battle' between WYXX and WLHT/WZZR could get very fierce, as one station splattered over onto the other, the dominant depending upon where in western Michigan you were at the time. WYXX (until recently) operated with 41 kw at 295',

and WZZR/WLHT (call change occurring a year ago) was 50 kw at 310' (recently moving to a taller tower in eastern GR). Two class B FMs, on second adjacent channels, barely 25 miles apart!" [See map Phil prepared and I photoreduced.]

Gene Cooper noticed my comments last month, p. 10 about an NAD tuner, and wondered what model. I don't know, but Gene uses the 4150 tuner, which "together with my 12-year-old Sherwood S-8900 receiver, makes me very happy with jazz reception from Los Angeles, 150 miles away." The new Anchorage AK station (buried in column 1, three pages back) on \*89.3 seeks calls XABT, signifying Anchorage Baptist Temple; construction cost \$50,000. Rod O'Connor is a volunteer at KMXT \*100.1 Kodiak, "A regular grab-bag of formats, but a primary NPR affiliate. On air, as mentioned in the Oct. issue, is K230AU at Port Lyons, the fifth and final translator of KMXT. Also new on air is KENY Soldotna-Kenai 101.7. It is a satellite of KGTI-FM 103.5 Homer. It rebroadcasts everything from KGTI-FM, although they do have a separate studio for future use. . . Alaskan Forces Radio Network has a new FM outlet at 91.5 at Galena in stereo. That's all I know about it, as they were promoting it on their AM network. Please enlarge the AK map in the next Atlas." [Perhaps Rod, or my other AK reporter Mike Kohl could check further on Galena '91.5 and other military and Bureau of Indian Affairs FM stations said to exist in Alaska.]

W. R. McIntosh reports channel 5 in Los Angeles has a Spanish audio simulcast; and the chief engineer of WCIX, channel 6, has talked to me about supplying SCA radios for their proposed Spanish audio simulcast service, Miami FL.

More on AM stereo from design engineer Tom Cornell: "Harris (one of the system proponents) has agreed to become a licensee of the Motorola system and appears to have joined forces with them. . . Even though Kahn hasn't given up, this would almost suggest a 'de facto' standard. Leonard Kahn has been a very troublesome individual and may have some new tricks up his sleeve. All along, he has threatened law suits and kicked and screamed to get his way. More than anyone, he was probably responsible for the 'marketplace' approach which led to consumer confusion and limited acceptance of AM stereo. Now, things may pick up speed. . . Yesterday, I was testing one of our AM stereo sets in a 1965 Rolls-Royce! All their 1985 cars sold in the U. S. will have our radios and will include AM stereo. This vehicle cost \$107,000! It is the third Rolls I've been in, and I got to drive two of them home. . . The high quality is evident; however, I am just not that fussy about cars. There are many more things I'd rather spend my money on." Regarding educational FM and TV channel 6: "I'm glad the FCC finally acted on the matter. . . It hardly seems right that TV should be able to prevent development of a neighboring service. I would hope that the FCC leaned in favor of FM and adopted standards that push receiver design a bit but, perhaps, that would be expecting too much. WIAN is on one of the towers at the channel 6 site (Indianapolis). Channel 6 and WFBO (FM) occupy the larger 1000' tower. About 100' to the east is an 850' tower with WFYI, cha. 20 and, I suspect, WIAN. Although not co-owned, WIAN and WFYI have a close working relationship because of their connection with PBS/NPR. WICR (FM) is on one of the other towers nearby, perhaps that of WXTZ? Everywhere I have been recently, it seems I run into mention of Gerry Le Bow. He seems to be into about everything. . . I met him as part of the Blaupunkt delegation to demonstrate ARI. The Sony portable seems like a very hot FM set. We have several, and I checked one out in our parking lot and was surprised

at how many FM stations it would tune in. It also overloaded on the two local FMs which are some 3 to 5 miles away. You may have heard the broadcasters 'ballyhoo' this radio as an example of a multi-system AM stereo receiver. It is not a terribly good one if used in a car and is no demonstration of a multi-system decoder. Certainly not one we would consider. We require automatic system selection and equal treatment of the systems. It's my suspicion that unequal performance could present the manufacturer with legal problems, especially with Leonard Kahn around! Tom wished us a Merry Christmas, and I want to thank everyone who wished us a good Christmas and a Happy New Year; and the best of DX to all of you in 1985!

Al Germond: "I suppose the last issue was the best because there were so many comments and views, about the only place any where to get such items in print. I am still waiting for John LaTour to get FCC go-ahead for his Jeff City translator modifications. We are of course subsidizing this unit, although under FCC regulations, assistance, payments, etc. can't begin until it is turned on and licensed. . . Once this is going, LaTour will work on Sedalia (93.5) where he has a site south of town of a tall mast. . . The whole idea is an exciting one though it understandably increases competition and depending on whose ox is being gored determines how a broadcaster might feel about these hillbilly stations. On a subsidy basis, the range of situations would seem narrow: St. Louis-size outlets would be reluctant to pay for translators in small, out-market communities, while small market stations probably wouldn't have the coin to subsidize a whole range of outlets unless real revenues came from those translator towns. I see translators working for us because the towns are really medium-size cities already partially familiar with our format

**KARO  
102 FM**

(which is specialized) while not having a comparable local outlet. But if the economics don't pan out, it is our prerogative to review the situation. . . Seeking to keep an open mind on AM stereo, have the two Sony units (SRF-A1 and SRF-A100) and recently installed the top-of-the-line Delco ETR AM-FM stereo unit in my car. The larger Sony SRF-A100 is overkill; you'll get a better assessment of AM stereo from the smaller walkman-type unit. . . The Sony units have a two-position switch for selecting between Motorola/Harris and the Kahn systems, but Harris has tossed in the towel on its superior system and decided as a major broadcast equipment manufacturer to adopt Motorola's [in our opinion inferior system. . . Best AM stereo heard to date is from WMAJL Washington. Low dial position and strong signal (630) helps. But even 50 kw WQXR 1560 15 miles away in NY city didn't overcome a lot of noise (compared with FM at 96.3) and receiver placement/orientation became critical. At 10 miles, WPAT Paterson NJ with 5 kw at 930 provided excellent separation, but with some distortion and background hiss. Perhaps one AM stereo flia remains receiver orientation/directionality. It's hard to freeze in some statuesque pose just to hear your favorite AM stereo station. . . A recent hearing of the Grand Ole Opry (live) from WSM shows the potential of AM stereo. But beware of platform distortion. It will make you seasick! A semi-local, KSIS 1 kw at 1050 in Sedalia MO recently switched on AM stereo. Yes, you get good separation. But if there is the slightest trace of a weaker station on channel, beware! In mono, it's tough hearing WQZ Decatur IL under KSIS. Now, with stereo, you'll hear the Decatur station swaying back and forth slowly under KSIS. Perhaps a boon to AM DXers fishing for weak stations, but hardly satisfying to the casual AM listener. . . Some stations leave their stereo pilot-tone while carrying typical AM fare, such as talk-shows, basketball games, etc. For hours on end. Frustrating.

"Negative comments on the Delco ETR AM stereo unit are unfair. Complaints about limited bandwidth, fidelity, etc. This

is not true on our unit. Switching the unit from AM mono to stereo increases bandwidth/decreasing selectivity. If I want to DX AM, I do it in mono. . . Like the Scott receivers of the 30s: variable selectivity—broad for fidelity, narrow for DX work. The AM stereo fidelity from the Delco or Sony units does not match FM, but it is good considering the band limitations. The Delco unit must have a 10 khz whistle filter because I hear no inter-station whine. Lack of this filter dooms the Sony portables to just casual listening on local signals. AM stereo will help strong stations, particularly at the low end of the dial (where tuning is broad). . . but AM must trash some perceptions from the young ("who needs it?") and remember that programming determines popularity. Unfortunately for AM, coverage and technical considerations also matter. Since FM coverage (like TV) more closely parallels ADIs and SMSAs, that advantage is built in. Most metro areas have grown beyond the night coverage AM outlets produce, while FM offers that 24-hr. signal consistency and reach. What a grand stroke as midnite tolled Dec. 15 to let all Class IV graveyard AM outlets operate with 1 kw fulltime! But what a joke as well. Our experience shows only marginal increases in distance covered (going from 7 to 8 miles, for instance) but more noise and splatter to adjacent channels. The AM dial at night, at least in the east and midwest these cold winter evenings is a war zone!

"I understand KOMO 97.7 Brookfield MO is back on the air. The AM and FM recently sold for \$21,000 (1) but I can't hear the FM because KKCA is a semi-local. . . The final Docket 90-90 list is interesting. A fair number of class A rimshots for larger markets; looks like 3 for the Springfield MO area and Olathe KS will shoot into greater Kansas City. . . And the bomb dropped by the FCC re: channel 6 interference looks ominous for educational stations. With Columbia sitting in a grade 8 channel 6 contour, our educational stations if not grandfathered in (and they are for now) would be in major trouble. KMOS, ch. 6, here is a mess at 55 miles, with one station at 88.1 particularly troublesome. A solution would be for educational FMs to operate channel 6 TV translators in the affected areas [which the FCC suggested their doing in certain cases—b.e.]. Eventually, TV front ends will improve so this problem may go away. Similar problems are cropping up between the FAA and FCC and the 106-136 aero band, but better-grade VHF aircraft equipment in a few years should lessen the problem. Next time, I'll detail some reception (mobile) observations during a drive from NYC to D. C. where there are lots and lots of egregiously shortsaced stations where agreements have been signed to put up with mutual interference. One at 101.1 with full power class B outlets 85 miles apart is a real dilly!"

John Ebeling sent an article showing one aspect of FM's growth: the Minnesota Vikings have moved from WCCO (AM) to KSTP-FM. He also sent an ad from Viking International, Newhall CA, mentioning the Capri CD-01 subcarrier detector at \$210, while my catalog lists the identical unit at \$97!

Like Jim Pizzi suggested, I wrote the Mexican government for information on their FM stations, but no answer yet. I'll share what I find out, if and when they write. He, John Ebeling and I all had skip on FM Dec. 14.

Karl Forth, an NRC member, sent articles on Blaupunkt's ARI System and on Motorola's SCA tone-alert pager, and an article on SCA: a glamor medium? *Business Marketing*, July, 1983. *Minnesota Monthly* indicates KGAC "90.5 St. Peter MN may be on the air. *WVED-FM* 105.3 Seguin (pronounced "se-ghan"), see p. 5 January VUD, facilities change will really make it a San Antonio outlet, not a rim-shot. Transmitter will be at Elaendorf TX, just outside San Antonio, with 1 mw/priary at 47 miles. When I was in San Antonio, the Cadillac radio would barely get WVED-FM on its old facilities.

An educational-religious group is seeking an FM license

in Idaho Falls ID, as well as three other ID cities. It is the Idaho Educational Broadcasting Foundation. This is similar to many applications around the nation for Class A-stereo stations, with most programming to be supplied from a satellite feed from the American Heritage Radio Network. More than 69 hours would be devoted to general education, with nearly 63 hours light entertainment, 1 1/2 hours news, 7 1/2 hours performing arts and seven hours religious broadcasting. I think, however, most of the programming would be classified "g," gospel for religious programming, including all the hours of light entertainment.

An article in *Broadcasting*, Feb. 13, 1984, p. 201 discussed the more than 200 applications filed for religious foundation FM stations, noting two satellite networks to be employed, but with local people ostensibly heading up each application. A fee construction permits have been granted, and I'd like to hear from reporters in areas where such stations go on the air if the stations are basically g formatted and if they are stereo. There are even pile-ups of educational-religious applications, with hearings to select the ultimate winners. An example is \*90.1 in Midland TX, with two or more applications. One group, Voice, an arm of Accelerated Christian Education (ACE), based in Lewisville TX, gave its format: "Each hour begins with five minutes of network news, with the rest of the hour being beautiful Christian music, along with brief scripture readings or character sketches and an occasional one-to-three minute segment concerning family life, the church or the school." There will also be opportunity for local announcements and donor acknowledgements as well as a local preaching ministry. The other outfit, American Heritage, is based in El Cajon CA. An equipment package has been figured out, costing a broadcaster about \$32,000, exclusive of local studio. Satellite programming fee would be \$300/month. Any of our readers wanna start an FM station?

Error in December column spotted by Peter Nolan: KDEA 99.1 is in New Iberia (not New Roads) LA. "KHCB 105.7 Houston has already had terrible coverage for their listed antenna height; the new 100' HAAT shouldn't change too much what they already have (or don't have). You list Sauk City WI 96.7 as WSEY; I have WVLR. Did I miss a change? [Yes, b.e.] Under formats KKNW Wadena MN is listed as 105.1. Did I miss something or is this a typo? (It's listed elsewhere in the column as 105.9 so I suspect the latter.) [Correct; it's on 105.9. Co-owned KLTA 105.1 Breckenridge-Moorhead is the one I confused that with.] "Under call letters, I have both AM and FM in Brigham City UT as KFRZ, not KFKZ."

This would affect tuning-in to ABC on SCA: John D. Small II says: "ABC, back on Nov. 12, shifted programming around for all their networks. Apparently, their young adult networks want more news-oriented programming and the net has complied. Feeds are also occurring near the top of the hour with three nets served on one satellite channel and the other 3 on still another satellite channel. . . They still must be adjusting to their new equipment because I've noticed their network feeds to WAJK frequently drop out causing our automation to cut away into music. Spots may be fed simultaneously over other spots. Tones that ordinarily come at the end of a feed may come just seconds after the feed drops out. Most, if not all ABC's nets feed affiliates 24 hours a day, seven days a week. [Or skip I had an ABC newscast on WOOF-FM 99.7 Dothan AL, but the network never identified which it was; it was not ABC information, so I wonder if my six categories of ABC networking are accurate.] "I look for WRXX in Ottawa IL to change their calls; there are rumors to that effect. We at WLPQ/WAJK La Salle IL are awaiting a Mexican/U. S. agreement allowing our AM to stay on longer. We would shift weekend sports broadcasts from FM to AM. Docket 90-90 certainly has opened the door to competition. There is a possibility of stations opening in several nearby towns."

In FCC news, the Commission denied the request of Moody Bible Institute to extend the use of FM translators, to 1) permit them to receive programming from terrestrial microwave or satellite receivers; 2) permit local origination of FM programming; 3) allow all translators to operate at 10 watts; 4) use TV auxiliary microwave frequencies for FM translator relay purposes. The FCC had originally turned Moody down on these requests, but then Moody amended the request just for the educational channels, 88.1-91.9. "Since it had previously explored each of the changes proposed by Moody in its petition for partial reconsideration, the FCC concluded that because new facts were not presented, reconsideration was not justified." (FCC news release Nov. 23/84)

KMFE Emmett ID dumped its Hispanic programming when the station was sold, so a group headed by Roman Reyna is trying for an educational FM permit in the Boise area. The KMFE show was on 60 hours a week, from 6 pm to midnight weekdays and 18 hours on Sunday. KMFE is now "KXW," KXUU 101.7.

The FCC has a working agreement with Canada, replacing a 1947 treaty. I wrote the Commission for a copy, but it has not come. However, I did receive a complete copy of the "Changes in the Rules Relating to Noncommercial, Educational FM Broadcast Stations" in regard to TV channel six. I studied the 24-pp. document one night and feel that I thoroughly understand it. In brief, it does not appear to be the complete sell-out to channel 6 TV interests I feared it would be. Nevertheless, many stations, such as those I pointed out last month, could not exist, or if they could, they would be very low powered indeed. Already groups like the NAB are opposing the new rules, and may force the FCC into court over the issue. I have not heard of any murmuring of opposition from public broadcasting groups. If I have time next month I will try to digest the rules for you, giving specific examples of powers and heights certain public FM stations could go to under the new rules.

Another release from the FCC: "Troublesome Broadcast Violations." See if you can identify any of these problems with stations you've heard, worked at, or visited: Lack of frequency tolerance of 2000 Hz for FM stations; failure to do weekly EBS tests; operation at times not authorized in the station license; directional antenna system tolerance; antenna tower painting and lighting, including inspecting the lighting system every 24 hours.

Contributors this month: Frank Aden, Jr., Boise ID; Robt. Baker, Humboldt IA; Phil Boersma, Spring Lake MI; Eugene E. Cooper, Lompoc CA; Thomas V. Cornell, Greentown IN; Joan R. Drezhlo, Troy NY; Mike Dornier, Jr., Metairie LA (for data sent in August); John Ebeling, Bloomington MN; Wendell Ford, Westville IN; Karl Forth, Chicago IL; Paul L. Gaines, Detroit MI (who's hoping to DX more in '85 from his van); Al Germond, Columbia MO; Robert Grant, Detroit MI; John W. Jefferson, supplier of most of the CA format news, in Pleasanton. Also: Marty Levere, W. Hartford CT (who likes my SCA work); Allen Lloyd, High Point NC; Nick Lombardi, Atlanta GA; Fred McCormack, Fargo ND; W. R. McIntosh, Granada Hills CA; David J. Nieman, Akron NY; Peter Nolan, Galveston TX; Rod O'Connor, Kodiak AK; Jim Pizzi, Lovington NM; Richard A. Porter, Wood Dale IL; Richard Reese, Jersey Shore PA; William L. Scully, Hudson OH; John D. Small II, Utica IL; Peter Thing, WOHM, Mount Washington NH; Larry Weil, Acton MA; Roger Winsor, Champaign IL; Dr. Richard Wood, Hilo HI; C. E. Zalenski, Johnson City NY. And I did get to Denver, skiing Keystone Dec. 24, and took note of some of the format changes in the area on that trip. Also: Don Wilkerson, Redwood City CA.

I won't always promise long columns like this month and last month. It seems longer columns generate more reader response, which is fine, but it makes my work more

# EASTERN TV-DX

William J. Draeb  
Ellis St. R.R.#2  
Kewaunee WI  
54216

February 1985

Deadline: 1st

John F. Combs; 2831 Selma, Jacksonville FL EST (904)-389-2188

Dec. 1984	Dec. 1984	Dec. 1984
2 Es 1922 XEFP-2 NL 1220* 4 Tr 0825	WGXA-24 GA 201	9 Tr 0833 WEVU-26 FL 77
Monterrey	Macon	Naples
2022 KFDX-3 TX 1016 8 Tr 2310	W29AB-29 FL 77	13 Es 2340 Unids on 2&3
Wichita Falls	Ocala (WTOG-44)	2352 CBC; ch.2
2157 WMID-2 TX 1221 9 Tr 0105	WJNG-7 FL 221	14 Tr 0936 WEBB-14 SC 200
Midland-Odessa	Panama City	WAGT-26 GA (SC) 215
4 Tr 0713 WLTZ-38 GA 240	0112 WPMI-15 AL 355	WCBS-20 GA t
Columbus	Mobile	0958 WGIQ-43 AL 242
0723 WTVM-9 GA 229	0250 WTVY-4 AL (FL) 244	Louisville
Columbus	0827 W27AE-27 FL 198	*= approximate distance
0753 WCOV-20 AL t	Sebring (WTOG-44)	t= tentative loggings

Totals at a whopping 49 stations! Don't think I'll ever see as much here as I did in Orlando. Then again, I didn't move here for the DX!

Fred Nordquist; 79+5 Boxford Road, Clay NY 13041 EST

Good tropo conditions were noted on 10/7, 10/13, 10/18, 10/28, 10/29, 10/31, and super conditions on 12/11 and 12/12. UHF antenna is now up to 40' ASL after adding new mast section. The new WIFDA xltter list is very helpful during the tropo sessions!

Oct. 1984	Nov. 1984	Dec. 1984
7 Tr 0040 GBLFT-55 ON	27 Tr 1745 WUSV-45 NY 116	11 Tr 2000 WLKY-32 KY 606
Barrie	Albany	Louisville
13 Tr 0000 Detroit U's	GW 1800 Unid-68 NY	2029 W48AA-48 WV 295
0018 WXON-20 MI 355	Syracuse Video Graphics	Keyser (WNPB-24)
Detroit	with WAGX-95.3 audio.	2248 WNPB-67 MD 267
18 Tr 2110-2221 E. MI U's	Is this legal?	2317 W51AB-51 MA 157
2221 WIHT-31 MI 385		1902-2320 Tr PA, CT, MD, DC, KY, WV, MA
Ann Arbor		12 Tr 0003-0035 New England
28 Tr 2225 WUHQ-41 MI 465	9 Es 2115 Unid-2; SW	0004 WGHY-57 MA 200
29 Tr 2348 WGTE-30 OH 385	11 Tr 1902 WRAT-19 PA 241	13 Es 2332 Unids-2; no I.D.
31 Tr 2302 WTIQ-61 CT 210	Johnstown	14 Gone to party; missed Es?
Hartford	1858 WWPB-31 MD 255	(There was here thru ch6 wd)
	Hagerstown	15 Tr 1608 WIHT-31, WGTE-30

Equipments: UHF 4 bay bowtie at 40' AGL w/rotor. VHF Stereo Probe 9 at 35' AGL w/rotor. Receiver - Panasonic CT-11108. Preamp; Winegard AC-4990.

Roy Barstow; P.O. Box 488-T, Teaticket MA 02536 EST

Nov. 1984	Nov. 1984	Dec. 1984
26 Tr 1900 WEBC-16 MD 340	27 Tr WCPB-28 MD 340e1845	11 Tr 2330 WERZ-46 NY 275
WCPB-28 MD "	1845 WAPB-22 MD 360	WICZ-40 NY "
2100 WHRO-15 VA 440	1900 WEBC-16 MD 340	WDAU-22 PA 270
WTVZ-33 VA "	1910 WLVT-39 PA 260	0000 WCNY-24 NY 300
WMDT-47 MD 340	2000 WHYI-12 DE 290	WXXA-23 NY 180
2230 WVEC-13 VA 440	2050 WITF-33 PA 325	12 Tr 0010 WENY-36 NY 320
27 Tr 0030 WERE-28 PA 270	WPMT-43 PA 340	0050 WPMT-43 PA 340
WDAU-22 PA "	2100 WTVB-51 PA 285	0100 WETM-18 NY 320
0110 WVTM-44 PA "	WFMZ-69 PA 260	0108 WUHF-31 NY 370
0115 W41AC VA 380	2340 WVMY-22 VT 240	0115 WLYH-15 PA 320
0130 W44AD VA "	28 Tr 0030 WERE-28 PA 270	0130 WLVT-39 PA 260
1800 W59AT NY 170	WVIA-44 PA "	2300 WNEP-16 PA 270
W63AS NY "		WERE-28 PA "
WRBV-65 NJ 270	11 Tr 0025 WLBZ-2 ME 240	2330 WBFF-45 MD 350
WTKK-66 VA 410	2200 WNEB-31 VT 170	WNUV-54 MD "
1830 WWSG-57 PA 260	WETK-33 VT 240	13 Tr 0010 WITF-33 PA 325
WNUV-54 MD 350	WVIA-41 VT 160	0030 WVR-29 VA 480
WMDT-47 MD 340	WVIA-44 PA 270	0045 WEP-21 PA 340
1845 WBFF-45 MD 350	2230 WNEP-16 PA "	WDAU-22 PA 270
W35AB PA 260	WERE-28 PA "	Es 2230 WEAR-3 FL 1200
WMMW-32 DC 380	2300 WUSV-45 NY 190	2300 WRBL-3 GA 1000
WETA-26 DC "	WITF-33 PA 325	

Eastern TV-DX

Barstow; continued---

February 1985

Here on Cape Cod we have not had any real cold weather. In fact, the whole East has been warm, while other parts of the country have had their snow storms. (Amen-wd.)

This has made DXing interesting even though not as spectacular as early autumn conditions.

On the 27th of November, was a good case in point. Over 75 UHF stations in this evening and although nothing new was seen, it was nice to see the channels filled up.

Then on Dec. 12, conditions toward western New York were good and netted my best catch in that state. So you can see it pays to check out the conditions and flip the dials around at least twice a day.

And, next to that, to report your DX, even if you may not consider it real DX. I for one like to read reports from my area and it's interesting to find you may be picking up certain stations and the fellow 50 miles down the road is receiving something else. We can find much information from others' reports. Even if they only report their locals. If they give s/on and s/off times and new stations coming on in their area would be a help for all. Some openings do not last long and knowing what may be on or off the air can save us much time. So help each other and report what you pick up. The editors are waiting with restless fingers to type your report up. By the way, they do a great job. HAT'S OFF! (Thanks for the compliment Roy. I don't know about about restless fingers but I wouldn't mind having some new reporters send in something, especially at this time of year. Otherwise, I concur with your comments 100% -wd.)

It looked as though there wasn't going to be a column this month. The last day of the month rolled around and I didn't have any reports but the mailman delivered all the reports in this months' column on the last day. I suppose with Christmas and New Years activities, not to mention the tax forms that come in the mail about now, most DXers were pre-occupied with other problems. Hope everyone survives the New Year.--wd.

## 15N

WICD-TV Plains Television Corporation

**wcia**  
MIDWEST TELEVISION INC.

510 South Neil Street, Champaign, Illinois 61820

**WMBD-TV** 3131 North University St., Peoria, IL 61604



February 1985

Deadline: 3-8-85

This month we have a rather healthy size column. There are reports of good tropo, an active December E skip season, and a good number of meteor scatter observations by some dedicated early risers.

We also welcome a new reporter and the return of an old regular after a number of years absence. Welcome Danny and welcome back Pat!

New \_\_\_\_\_ New Mode \_\_\_\_\_ Tent. - t Unidentified - unid S/On - + S/Off - =  
ID Color Bars - @ \_\_\_\_\_ Unid Color Bars - % IHTP - ¢ Misc. Test Patterns - &

William Draeb, Ellis St., Rt. #2, Kewaunee, WI 54216

CST

Equipment: 7' Finco dish, B-T CMA-Ub preamp @ 93', .750 cable. Stacked Finco high band yagis with B-T AB-3 (tube type) preamp @ 100' with RG/11 cable. Second tower, 40', with Winegard CH-4026 (lo-band) and Winegard SC713 (hi-band) yagis. Hi-band uses AB-300 preamp. Zenith 14N22 table model 23" b&w (1971) with B-T BTU-2s UHF converter (used for UHF and also the stacked hi-band yagis) and Zenith 16J20 19" b&w (early 60's) (used with antennas on 40' tower), and Panasonic 9" b&w portable.

October 1984				13 tr 0630				24 tr 1902			
29 tr 0615	KNLC	24 MO	432	0643	WAFV	48 AL	685	1903	WXIX	19 OH	400
	KDNL	30 MO	432		WAFV	48 AL	685		WCET	48 OH	400
0815	WUSI	16 IL	405	0649	WHNSt	21 NC			WKYt	27 KY	
1830	WCET	48 OH	400		WGRB	34 KY	508		WGRB	34 KY	508
	WKON	52 KY	437	0653	WKCHT	43 TN			WKSO	29 KY	538
1911	WTE	28 OH	395		WVUT	22 IN	589	2229	WCTE	22 OH	589
	WOSU	34 OH	395		WVUT	22 IN	589	2340	KBSI	23 MO	512
1935	WNEO	45 OH	406	0740	WXIX	19 OH	400	2345	KDNL	30 MO	432
	WPTT	22 PA	480	0750	KDNL	30 MO	432	25 tr 0815	WKBN	27 OH	420
2014	WTVQ	36 KY	473		WQLN	54 PA	405	0829	WUTV	29 NY	445
	WKLE	46 KY	473		WCVN	54 KY	407		CFMT	47 ON	410
	WSFJ	51 OH	395		WSEE	35 PA	405		CBFLT	25 ON	410
2234	WGGN	52 OH	321	0755	WJET	24 PA	405	0945	WNETD	17 NY	
	(Snow free)				WVUT	22 IN	589		WSEE	35 PA	405
	WPCB	53 PA	480	0800	WKLE	46 KY	473	1010	WQLN	54 PA	405
2314	WPCB	40 PA	480	0815	WTCI	45 TN	671		unid ch 36 east		
	W64AF	64 OH		0824	WDSI	61 TN	671	1014	WMGC	34 NY	600
	(Conneaut	WVIZ-25)			WBTI	64 OH	400		WICZ	40 NY	600
	W66##	66 MI		0827	W66AQ	66 OH			WENY	36 NY	
	(Detroit	SIN)			WTE	28 OH	395	1104	WTVQ	36 KY	473
	W67##	67 MI			WOSU	34 OH	395	1410	WGRB	34 KY	508
	(Ann Arbor	WLNS-6)		1900	WKON	52 KY	437		WCET	48 OH	400
				1926	WBKZ	63 IN	238	1440	WKON	52 KY	437
					(Rare)			1501	WSBN	47 VA	587
November 1984				1949	WSBN	47 VA	587	1535	WTE	28 OH	395
7 tr 0715	KDNL	30 MO	432	1956	WTVQ	36 KY	473	1600	CITY	57 ON	410
	KNLC	24 MO	432		WKLE	46 KY	473	1622	WGGN	52 OH	321
10 Es 1818	WERZt	2 LA			WPBO	42 OH	462	1806	CKGN22	22 ON	413
	KATC	3 LA	1030		WCET	48 OH	400	1907	CICA	19 ON	410
	KJACT	4 TX			WXIX	19 OH	400	1940	WNPE	16 NY	600
12 tr 2105	WDRB	41 KY	437	2110	WGRB	34 KY	508				
	WKPC	15 KY	437		WCTE	22 TN	589				
	WXIX	19 OH	400	2127	WKSO	29 KY	538				
	WCTE	22 TN	589	2145	WDRB	41 KY	437				
2110	WTVQ	36 KY	473	2150	WKPC	15 KY	437				
2113	WGRB	34 KY	508		WFIE	14 IN	420				
2122	WKLE	46 KY	473	2153	WEHT	25 IN					
	WCET	48 OH	400		WKHA	35 KY	551				
2143	WCAY	30 TN	585	2218	WEVV	44 IN	420				
2205	WAFV	48 AL	685	2331	=WKCHT	43 TN					
2230	WKSO	29 KY	538		(u/WKOI 2331:30)						
13 tr 0630	WKHA	35 KY	551	21 Es 1822	unids ch 2	+++ s		9 tr 0630	WLKY	32 KY	437
	WKSO	29 KY	538	24 tr 1859	WTVQ	36 KY	473	1922	WTE	28 OH	395
	WDRB	41 KY	437		WKLE	46 KY	473	Es 2003	WOSU	34 OH	395
	WKPC	15 KY	437						KPRC	2 TX	1118
									KJAC	4 TX	1080
									unid channel 3		
								11 tr 0615	WAFV	48 AL	685
									WAAY	31 AL	685
									WCET	48 OH	400
									WKPC	15 KY	437

bia. Most of the programs were dubbed American programs (like Star Trek), old movies, and soccer games. One promo was very interesting. It was for a program called "NBC's Sportsworld".

Some of the programs of Colombia and other Latin American countries regularly appear on American Television. If you can receive a SIN network station or translator, you may see a beauty pageant from Colombia, or a music program from Mexico.

Travel to South America is very interesting and delightful. Some words of advice, for those planning to visit our Latin neighbors. If you do not speak and understand Spanish, take a tour. And if you get sick, go home. You'll avoid a long stay in the hospital.

I would like to hear from anyone else who has been to Central and South America. Please tell me of where you went and what you saw. And tell me about the radio and television in the countries you were in.

That's it for this month. I'll have plenty of ANARC news for you next time. From me and my travelling partner, my wife Joyce,

73's

Steven P. Sirochman  
and Joyce

### Worldwide TV-FM DX Association

Robert Grant, KDBEN  
5775 Bishop  
Detroit, MI 48224.  
February, 1985.

# C.C.I. [UNIDENTIFIED DX]

#### TV UNIDS:

Michael Parks, Route 1, Box 103, Amery, WI 54001.

1984: Sat 16 Jun Es ch 2 0155 CDT-- Movie with logo "SUMMER CINEMA" (PTA: W)  
Tue 19 Jun Es ch 2 1400 CDT-- ID w/ promo "Love Boat" 1800 wkds., ABC, W??? call.  
" " " Es ch 4 1404 CDT-- first episode of "The Brady Bunch" (Mike & Carol's marriage)  
Fri 22 Jun Tr ch 24 1702 CDT-- STV. (PTA: MN, SD, IA.) (Any LPV's, Maybe WCGV?? -RG)  
" " " " ch 22 1736 CDT-- Different from WCCO-4, Minneapolis, MN. then at 1800 announce go into WCCO news, then on xltng WCCO. (a xltr with a local studio. -RG)  
" " " " ch 34 1753 CDT-- SPN. (PTA: IA, MN, SD.)  
Sat 23 Jun Es ch 2 0129 CDT-- end "Twilight Zone" episode "I Sing The Body Electric" had a 27 in LR corner. (Definitely CFAC, Calgary, Alberta. ch 7 is their CATV channel, I'll never forget how long it took me to find out who this 27 was after KHON said "no" after I saw it back in '82. -RG)  
Thu 12 Jul Tr ch 22 2230 CDT-- SPN (PTA: S.)  
Mon 6 Aug Es ch 2 1545 CDT-- "Smurfs" then "Charlie's Angels" episode "The Prince and The Angel" at 1600.  
Sat 25 Aug Tr ch 43 0039 CDT-- INN News. Mention what sounded like "TV-23" but could have been "TV-43" (PTA: SSW)  
" " " Tr ch 25 0130 CDT-- start "Twilight Zone" (60 min. episode) (PTA: SSW)  
Tue 28 Aug Tr ch 43 2230 CDT-- start "Thicke Of The Night", ad- "Bloomington Ltd." phone # 828-5911. (There's a 43 in Bloomington, IL. -RG)  
Mike, I want to apologize for forgetting about this report which should have been in the January column, by the time I found it again, the deadline had passed. I'll just have to take better care of the letters I get when I get them, sorry, -RG.

The 1984-85 Winter Es season was surprisingly like the '84 summer season, a great drumroll, and then, silence! Good openings in October and November, but not a trace of Es in December or January. The only good news for DXers may be that it can't get any worse. (this goes for the whole RF spectrum, these days.)

73.

William Draeb (continued) 11 tr 0749 WLKY 32 KY 437 14 Es 1615 WBRZ 2 LA 1002  
(WXGZ-32 off) WML 4 LA 1028  
11 tr 0627 WOSU 34 OH 395 0814 WEVV 44 IN 420 KTXtT 5 TX  
WPBO 42 OH 461 WUSI 16 IL 402 WDSU 6 LA  
0638 WFIE 14 IN 420 (WXGZ back on at 0829) KTALT 6 LA  
WLONT 19 KY 1230 WGRB still in, KDFW 4 TX 957  
0642 WGRB 34 KY 508 but not much else. WMAB 2 MS 784  
.WDRB 41 KY 437 1230 @WSCO 14 WI 60 1800 KRIS 6 TX 1285  
0646 WCAY 30 TN 585 (Usually not on KIII 3 TX 1285  
WEHT 25 KY 420 til 1645 wkdays) KMOL 4 TX 1213  
(WLRE-26 off) 1800 WGRB 34 KY 508 1815 KJAC 4 TX 1080  
0657 WKMA 35 KY 499 WTVQ 36 KY 473 1830 KACB 3 TX 1143  
0705 WTHI 27 IL 476 WKLE 46 KY 473 (KRBC / KACB ID)  
WKBN 27 OH 420 1807 WKHA 35 KY 551 1845 KIDYt 6 TX  
0709 WKMU 21 KY 553 WSNB 47 VA 587 18 Es 1205 WCBN 2 SC 916  
(WLRE back on at 0715) WDRB 41 KY 437 WESHT 2 FL  
0728 WBMG 42 AL 768 1915 Rain ends tropo. unid channel 3  
(Take Five" intrview) 14 Es 1100(approx) Chs 2, 3 WCIVt 4 SC  
WTTOT 21 AL (No time to view)

I was going to watch for some meteor scatter during the Geminids shower, and I did, a little, until a hot tropo opening on the the 11th and some E skip through channel 6 on the 14th altered my plans somewhat. I never did identify any meteor scatter, but there was lots of other DX.

Well, maybe I'll be able to snag a few meteor scatter catches during the Quadrantids shower the first week in January. Not much DX since the 18th.

I received an interesting letter from CMU (Central Michigan University). It was in response to some questions I had about their new channel 21 in Manistee and channel 27 in Cadillac. It explains where each station gets it's signal from. W69AV gets their signal from W46AD in Traverse City. W6ML-6 gets it's signal from W6MU-14 via five microwave hops. W6MV-27 gets it's signal from W6MN-21, and W6MN-21 gets it's signal from W6MU-14. I thought when channel 21 came on that they would be a lot stronger than they are, but at this time of year, their signal doesn't amount to much, even though they are only sixty miles away. It must be their short (340') antenna that causes them to be so weak. When comparing them to W6CO-14 (also sixty miles away), there's no comparison. W6CO is much stronger, and I get a viewable picture from them all the time with an indoor antenna (corner reflector). Needless to say, W6MN-21 is just barely viewable with my dish. However, there are some days when they are real good, but those are mostly during warmer weather conditions.

\*\*\* (Bill, your call for channel 64 at Conneaut, Ohio (10/84 @ 2314) differs from that shown in the WTFDA Translator-Low Power TV List. The List shows W64AK. Also shown in the List are calls for channel 66, Detroit (K66BV) and channel 67, Ann Arbor (W67AJ); call letters which you listed as unknown. Do you have information that contradicts these three call letter designations? fm)\*\*\*

Nathaniel Ely, 1237 East Johnson St., #2, Madison, WI 53703 (608)-257-5220 CST

Equipment: Quantum 1110, C.M. 7' dish with 4990 preamp at 61', 70'/30' runs of .412/RG-11 cable, H-D 73 rotor. Winegard DA-405 post amplifier (when locals off the air), Channel Master 7206 "Hi Q" trap (UHF). Tower, QDMX MD-56 (free standing). Zenith System III.

December 1984  
11 tr 0723 WSPJ 51 OH 420 17 tr 0706 Cleveland U's 400 30 tr 0534 WTTT 28 OH 405  
0758 WCAY 30 TN 500 21 tr 0000 Cleveland U's 400 1808 WSPJ 51 OH 420  
0836 Cleveland U's 400 0006 CKO03 42 ON 480 1942 Cleveland U's 400  
0930 WKSO 29 KY 480 0010 CICO 59 ON 1948 WEAO 49 OH 415  
0854 WGRB 34 KY 460 (Sure would like 2025 WNEO 45 OH 445  
0956 WKGB 53 KY 435 an ID on this.) 2034 WYTV 33 OH 460  
1500 WEVV 44 IN 375 0030 WFMJ 21 OH 460 WPGH 53 PA 505  
14 Es 1830 KRGV 5 TX 1280 0034 WKBnt 27 OH 2041 WAKR 23 OH 415  
1830 WDIQ 2 AL 820 0050 WAKR 23 OH 415 WOAC 67 OH 420  
WRALT 5 NC 0100 WSEE 35 PA 465 2129 WOUS 34 OH 405

Here's all the DX that's fit to print. Not exactly a landslide of stations, but more than I expected. I did a crummy job of watching for E skip, and the only opening that I observed was because Frank Merrill called me about it. Thanks Frank, I would have missed it. My goal for 1984 was to break 400 stations ID'd by New Years, and I made it. I was beginning to think it would be impossible when the summer tropo was so bad. That's it for this report. 73's, Nate

Don Ruland, 4448 68th Place, Kenosha, WI 53142 CLT?

August 1984 11 tr 2130 WBLN 43 IL 160  
28 tr 2100 KYIN 24 IA 270 2200 WFHL 23 IL 200  
29 tr 0530 WHAS 11 KY 330  
WLKY 32 KY 330  
0535 KTTC 10 MN 270  
September 1984  
9 tr 2210 WCMW 21 MI 140  
2230 WCMW 27 MI 170  
11 tr 2100 W51AF 51 IL 120 (LaSalle LPTV)  
October 1984  
4 gw 2200 WGVK 52 MI 120  
6 tr 0545 WKBN 27 OH 380  
WYTV 33 OH 380  
WJET 24 PA 400  
WSEE 35 PA 400  
WPGH 53 PA 430  
November 1984  
3 tr 2145 WCEE 13 IL 300  
13 tr 0600 WRGT 45 OH 280  
0600 Cincy, Dayton, & Lexington UHF's.  
0630 WKON 52 KY 330  
WCYN 54 KY 310  
WKS0 29 KY 420  
Log is at 539 as of 12-19-84

Jim Pizzi, P.O. Box 1778, Lovington, NM 88260 (505)-396-3251 MST

Equipment: Tri-Ex MW-65' Tower - @ 65', 10 element Antennacraft (hor) into Akai AT-V04 and JVC VT700 with Jerrold FM de-snow; @ 68', Finco P-7 UHF dish with Eu-4s preamp into Sony 8" b&w or Motorola 19" color; @ 72', Winegard CH-7023 (10 elements, chs 7-13) with Winegard AC-9730 preamp into Motorola 19" color. 35 Foot Tower - @ 35', Winegard CH-4054 with Winegard A-215 in house tube amp into Motorola 19" color; @ 38', CM 4250 6' UHF with Eu-4s preamp into 12" Emerson b&w. 20', 10 element channel 2 with Winegard AC-9260 preamp (channels 2-6); 35', CM-1110 with Winegard AC-9990 preamp on 20' push up on garage roof; Channel 2 and FM vertical on 20' push up; Winegard CH-4054 on 10' mast; 25', 10 element Antennacraft FM (vert) into JVC VT900; 13', Winegard CH-4052 with Winegard AC-9260 preamp (chs 2-6).

December 1984  
2 Es 1835 unids 2-6 Mexico and Florida  
2018 XEHL 6 JA 840  
2200 XEWO 2 JA 840 (MUF to 107.7)  
(Es gone by 2221)  
3 Es 0931 unids ch 2-4 ne  
0959 WSJK 2 TN 1170  
1018 WSB 2 GA 1098  
1200 WDIQ 2 AL 1008  
7 Es 1659 WDIQ 2 AL 1008  
1700 WEAR 3 FL 950  
WTVY 4 AL 1067  
1758 unid ch 2 Mexico  
8 tr 0915 K53BE 53 OK 273 (Gymon TBN)  
(Has ID in upper right corner all the time.)  
0922 K16AB 16 OK 273 (w/microwave break-up and drop out.)  
2236 WBAyt 2 WI  
2301 KGFEt 2 ND PBS (MUF to 96.5)  
14 Es 0941 WBAyt 2 WI 1125  
1002 unids chs 2-6 ne  
1029 WJXT 4 FL 1300  
1100 WSB 2 GA 1098 (MUF to 107.9)  
1340 WSB 2 GA 1098  
1419 WSJKt 2 TN PBS  
1430 unids chs 3, 4 e  
1433 WNGE 2 TN 968  
12 Es 1345  
12 Es 1401 XHPAH 3 HD 0kHz (Actopan, Hidalgo with local program and ID)  
1506 X---- 6 ?? TRM (Veracruz area?, Yuc?, with + kHz offset. )  
1515 XHIX 5 ?? (Ixmiquillpan, Hidalgo?)  
12 Es 1500 WDTN 2 OH 1152  
1530 WESH 2 FL 1346  
1559 WFLY 2 NC 1350  
1600 WFFF 4 SC 1206  
1610 WBTY 3 NC 1206  
1612 WSZA 3 WV 1238  
1626 WJBJ 2 MI 1260  
1630 WEWst 5 OH ABC  
unid ch 6 ne ABC  
1707 WKRG 5 AL 936  
1758 WAGA 5 GA 1098  
1828 WMAB 2 MS 828  
16 tr 2149 KOKI 23 OK 473 (Odd this one! KAUT in good, but no KGCT/KOKH (KTBO in). KGCT & KOKH finally in at 22:30, but weaker than chs 23, 43)  
18 Es 1100 WSB 2 GA 1098  
WECT 6 NC 1467  
1128 WFLY 2 NC 1350  
1129 WETV 3 NC 1206  
WUNC 4 NC 1395 (MUF to 103.1)  
1325 KDKA 2 PA 1373  
1501 unid ch 2 east  
1517 unid ch 2 east  
1520 unid ch 3 e -kHz  
1523 WSAV 3 GA  
1526 WDIQ 2 AL 1008  
1531 WBRZ 2 LA  
1724 unid ch 2 XEW  
1740 unid ch 3 Mexico  
25 Es 1902 XEW 2 DF

I've noticed that some Mexican TV calls are related to the initials of the cities and/or states that they are in, i.e. XHCH-2, Chihuahua; XHAP-2, Acapulco; XHBC-3, Mexicali, BC; XHPN-3, Piedras Negras; XHP-3, Puebla; XHCV-3, Coatzacoalcos, Veracruz; XHY-3, Merida, Yucatan; XHG-4, Guadalajara; XEJ-5, Juarez; XHCC-5, Colima, Colima; and XHZ-5, Zamorano. XHPAH (on 12/12) had PSA's for tourism in Hidalgo and the call slide had



**Jim Pizzi (continued)** calls in large letters inside what looked like a tire (?) with Hidalgo written on the bottom sidewall. The QTH is an educated guess - XHPAH - Acotopan, Hidalgo and may be affiliated with XHP in Puebla?? XHII-5 QTH is also an educated guess, although FM was in strong from Veracruz state, so XHII may be in that area.

Just a thought - if any club members, relatives, or friends are going to take a trip to Mexico, maybe they could pick up a Mexican equivalent of TV Guide or TV listings (also FM) from a newspaper and pass it on to club headquarters to be compiled, or I'll even do it as I have some friends who understand the language. We all really need to update our Mexican FM and TV information as Mexico is really putting a lot of new stations on the air!

Well, it was quite nice to have all that E skip to watch in December. It makes up for the lack-luster summer E skip. On December 2, 12, 13, 14, and 18 - I spent a lot of time on the FM, but still managed a few new TV's. I saw quite a bit of meteor scatter this month too, but no ID's. Tropo have been down this report period even though the weather has been mild. It should pick up soon. I hope that everyone has the best new year ever! 73's, Jim

\*\*\*I agree with you that we need a good up to date Mexican TV and FM list. Developing one is no simple task. I wonder how valuable TV listings from Mexico are? Do they list channels, call letters, and locations, or just network programs? Are any Mexican experts working on station lists? fm\*\*\*

Danny Buntin, 1312 North Skyline, Stillwater, OK 74705 CST

Equipment: Quasar 1984 25 inch, 4 way bowtie with Radio Shack amplifier.

December 1984			
8 tr 1020	KDNL 30 MO 405	8 tr 1200	KLDH 49 KS 220
1025	KSPR 33 MO 220	1430	KYFC 50 MO 250
WICS 20 IL 480	1126	1830	K30AL 30 KS 160
	1140	2100	KYNE 26 NE 370
			(Iola-Moran KTWU-11)

This is my first TV DX report, and it represents my best results with TV tropo. While I prefer DX'ing FM, it can sometimes be refreshing to get away from the congestion on that band and see what's happening on UHF. About all TV DX'ing is done on UHF since VHF is too congested here, especially when it comes to E skip on low VHF.

\*\*\*Welcome to the column and thanks for your comment. I hope we'll be hearing regularly from you. fm\*\*\*

William Eckberg, RR#4, Dixon, IL 61201 (Log at 442 with 10 new) CST

Equipment: Zenith b&w tube receiver, CM 1110 VHF antenna, CM 7' UHF parabolic with Winegard PA4975 preamplifier on a 30' tower.

December 1984			
1 ms 0540	KJRH 2 OK 519	14 Es 1858	WDIQ 2 AL 727
0612	KPRC 2 TX 890	0510	KPRC 2 TX 890
3 ms 0513	KPRC 2 TX 890	0545	KJRH 2 OK 519
4 ms 0501	KSAF 2 NM 972	0655	WHRM 20 WI 223
0515	KPRC 2 TX 890	0730	WLEF 36 WI 289
6 ms 0530	KPRC 2 TX 890	27 tr 0505	WSIL 3 IL 276
0548	KMID 2 TX 967	ms 0548	KSAF 2 NM 972
0552	KSAF 2 NM 972	29 ms 0440	KSAF 2 NM 972
8 tr 0150	KSNF 16 MO 413	0535	KOUS 4 MT 925
		0445	KDFW 4 TX 738
		0521	KOUS 4 MT 925

The tropo opening of December 11 peaked in the afternoon. It was out by 1800. WCAY-30 at 408 miles was snowfree for hours. It showed the characteristics of a duct as a limited number of stations were observed. Other tropo conditions were normal.

The E skip opening of December 14 was from 1650-1930 in duration. It was very intense and through channel six from 1800-1830. I observed shortest skip of year at 583 miles and a large number of unidentified.

Of interest to meteor scatter DX'ers - WSIL-3 recently put their call and that of their satellite, KPOB, on their ID slide in large letters - for how long??? I looked at their color bars for six months and couldn't ID them previously. WSIL-3 runs their ID slide all night. It's always there when I look. KSAF-2 and KOUS-4 appear to run their ID slides for at least an hour and they are easy to ID.

\*\*\*Thanks for the meteor scatter test pattern tips. Now to get up early! fm\*\*\*

Pat Dyer, 5315 Silvertip Drive, San Antonio, TX 78228 (WA5IYX) CST

Equipment: 1980 model Penncrest 9" black and white, Archer V-100 and eight bay bow tie UHF array at 20 feet with rotor.

September 1984			
21 Es 1627	YSR 2 1200	23 Es 1859	WCBT 2 SC 1120
5 Es 0915-1030	unids	1705-1920	unids 2-5 Sp
0915	WSJKT 2 TN	1802	YSU t 4
1027	WEDUT 3 FL	23 ms 0549	KQTV 2 MO 750
	WESH 2 FL 1055		
October 1984			
6 Es 1100	KCBST 2 CA	7 Es 0828-0934	unids 2 Mex
1110	KEYTT 3 CA	0838	+YSR 2 1200
1117	KNBCT 4 CA	1755	WPBT 2 FL 1150
1225	fade/outs	1815	unid ch 2,3 brf
1557	unids ch 2 s/se	1930	WTVJt 4 FL
1604	TGV t 3	2007	fade/outs un 2-4
	(MUF 98.6-1619)	2043	unid 2 Spanish
1728	YSR 2 1200	8 Es 1710-35	unid 2 Spanish
1732	YSU t 4	1820-1900	unids 2-4 nw
1820	fade/outs		(Lightning nw)
2000	unids 2 s(brief)	1840	KWGNt 2 CO
8 Es 1124	unid ch 2(brief)	11 Es 0902	tune/in
1810-15	unid 2 Spanish	0929	KUSD 2 SD 920
1920-2125	unids 2-5 ne	0944	KDLOt 3 SD
	(Busy with ARRL VHF Contest )	0955	fade/outs
1935	WCOOT 4 MN	13 Es 1025-1110	unids 2, 3
1936	KTCA 2 MN	1054	KGANT 2 IA
2200	unids ch 2 east	1100	KIMT 3 IA 985
9 Es 1405-1540	unids 2-5 ne	16 Es 0950	unids chs 2, 3
	(MUF 88.5-1413)	1029	KIMT 3 IA 985
1759-2117	unids 2-4	1112	KGAN 2 IA 945
1844	WJXTt 4 FL	1128	KUSD 2 SD 920
1845	WEDUT 3 FL	1159	KTCA 2 MN 1110
1901	WPBTt 2 FL	1201	WCOOT 4 MN
2031	KNBCT 4 CA	1204	KOTA 3 SD 1040
2038	KCBSt 2 CA	1222	fade/outs
2117	WCBdt 2 SC	1600	unids chs 2, 3
10 Es 1955	tune/in unids 2-4	1627	KNBCT 4 CA
		1635	KEYT 3 CA 1270
2004	KCBSt 2 CA	1658	fade/outs
		1810	unids ch 2
2050	KTVKt 3 AZ	1816	KCBS 2 CA 1190
	XHBCt 3 BCN	1825	WTVJt 4 FL
2100	fade/outs	1833	WESH 2 FL 1055
11 Es 0915-0945	unid 2,3 Mex	1838	KVBCt 3 NV
13 tr 0003	KPLC 7 LA 325	1844	KTWO 2 WY 1015
0820	KLTLt 18 LA	1857	unid ch 3 SD
0830	KOSA 7 TX 275	1859	KWGN 2 CO 810
0859	KLDY 6 TX 175	2100	fade/outs
	(Audio from FM)	20 Es 0805-0859	WESHt 2 FL
Es 1820	unids ch 2 south	1020	WCBdt 2 SC
14 Es 1312-1920	unids 2-5 Sp	1040	unid channel 3
1511	TGV 3 1120	1058	WUND 2 NC 1360
1601	YSU t 4	1110	lull
1607	YSR 2 1200	1135-1213	unids ch 2
	(MUF 94.9-1615)	21 Es 1035-1045	unids 2-4 ne
15 Es 0750	tune/in	22 Es 1758	tune/in
	unids chs 2,3 Sp		unid 2-5 Spanish
0858	fade/outs		(MUF 88.8)
1455-1628	unids 2,4 Sp	1959	WFMY 2 NC 1175
1959	XEWO 2 JA 690	2025	WCBdt 2 SC
2005	f/outs	2059	fade/outs
17 Es 1125	unids 2,3(brief)	23 Es 1703	unids ch 2 ne
19 Es 1605	WCBT 2 SC 1120	1712	WSJKT 2 TN
1642	WESHt 2 FL	1730	WFMYt 2 NC
1650	unid.ch 3(brief)	1733	WSAVt 3 GA
1805	unid ch 2(brief)	1800	WCIVt 4 SC
1940	unid ch 2(brief)		(MUF 89.3-1829)
21 Es 1518-1630	unids 2 Span	1847	unid ch 2 GRO

Pat Dyer (continued)

23 Es 1974 KVBC 3 NV 1050  
 1936 fade/outs  
 24 Es 1550 tune/in unids 2-4  
 YSR t 2  
 (MUF 88.8-1614)  
 TGV t 3  
 fade/outs  
 1715 XEWO 2 JA 690  
 1800 fade/outs  
 1840  
 25 Es 1025 tune/in unids 2  
 tr 1028 XHX 10 NL 275  
 Es 1045 unids chs 2-5  
 1114 YSU t 4  
 1310 fade/outs  
 1517 unids ch 2 se  
 1545 YSR t 2  
 1646 YSU t 4  
 1755 fade/outs  
 1845-1900 unids ch 2-3  
 2010-2040 unids ch 2-4  
 2059 WPBT 2 FL 1150  
 WTVJt 4 FL  
 WEDU 3 FL 985  
 (MUF 89.7-2105)  
 2136 WESHT 2 FL  
 2250 fade/outs  
 28 Es 1918 WESH 2 FL 1055  
 1940 WEDUt 3 FL  
 2010 WPBTt 2 FL  
 2030 fade/outs  
 30 Es 2127 unids chs 2-5 nw  
 KVVUt 5 NV  
 (MUF 95.5-2140)  
 2159 KNAZ 2 AZ 855  
 KVBC 3 NV 1050  
 2211 fade/outs

December 1984

1 Es 1037 unids chs 2, 3  
 (MUF 94.1-1053)  
 1057 XETV 6 BCN1100  
 1120 fade/outs  
 2 Es 1130 unids chs 2, 3  
 ms 1159 WMAB 2 MS 615  
 Es 1159 WSJK 2 TN 1010  
 1210 fade/outs  
 Es 1745 tune/in  
 YSR t 2  
 1755 Cuba t 3  
 (FM open - 1809)  
 (MUF to VOR's-2022)  
 2147 WTVYt 4 AL  
 2158 WDIQ 2 AL 730  
 2219 WCBd 2 SC 1120  
 2303 WESHT 2 FL  
 3 Es 0925 tune/in  
 WDTN 2 OH 1075  
 (MUF 89.1-0927)  
 0933 WCIA 3 IL 935  
 0959 WTWo 2 IN 935  
 1000 WSIL 3 IL 810  
 1008 WEBB 2 IL 1045  
 1013 WTTVt 4 IN  
 1158 KGAN 2 IA 945

3 Es 1215-1240 spotty  
 1245 KUSD 2 SD 920  
 1509-1530 unid ch 2 s  
 4 Es 2158-2225 unids ch 2  
 2200 KDKA 2 PA 1280  
 6 Es 1800-1825 unid ch 2 s  
 2010-2017 unid ch 2 ne  
 7 Es 1028-1045 unids 2,3 ne  
 1257-1316 unids ch 2  
 1302 KDKA 2 PA 1280  
 1430-37 unids ch 2 ne  
 1650-1720 unids 2,3 Sp  
 1724 Cuba 2  
 1727 YSR 2 1200  
 1728 YSU t 4  
 TGV t 3  
 1942 fade/outs  
 unids ch 2 ne  
 2040-2051 unids ch 2,3  
 2044 KCBS 2 CA 1190  
 8 tr 0523 KPLC 7 LA 325  
 0524 KLFY 10 LA 395  
 0536 WAFB 9 LA 450  
 ms 0556 WTVF 5 TN 820  
 Es 0925-1020 unids 2 ne  
 1335-1350 unids ch 2  
 1701 YSR 2 1200  
 1702 YSU t 4  
 1800 WPBT 2 FL 1150  
 1840 fade/outs  
 1959 unids ch 2 west  
 2014 KCBS 2 CA 1190  
 KNBCt 4 CA  
 2035 XHAQt 5 BCN  
 2045 XETV 6 BCN1100  
 (MUF 101.5-2049)  
 2057 XHBC 3 BCN1010  
 2126 fade/outs  
 9 ms 0931 KCBS 2 CA 1190  
 Es 1432-1840 unids ch 2,3  
 Spanish - south  
 11 Es 0945 tune/in  
 WPBTt 2 FL  
 0955 WESHT 2 FL  
 1335-1550 unids 2 Span  
 1338 YSR 2 1200  
 12 Es 1454-1515 unids ch 2,3  
 TGV t 3  
 1516 YSR t 2  
 1550 XHAQt 5 BCN  
 KVOAt 4 AZ  
 (MUF 97.7-1615)  
 1631 KUATt 6 AZ  
 1659 KTVK 3 AZ 835  
 (MUF 100.1-1828)  
 1910 fade/outs  
 13 ms 0449 KSNC 2 KS 615  
 0553 KQTV 2 MO 750  
 0556 KSAF 2 NM 600  
 0557 KGAN 2 IA 945  
 0559 KNOP 2 NE 815  
 Es 1218 KCBS 2 CA  
 1700-1705 unid ch 2 se  
 1750-1825 unid 2-6s/se  
 (MUF 94.9-1842)

13 Es 1856 XHP 3 PU 735  
 2005 fade/outs  
 14 Es 1028-45 unids chs 2, 3  
 1047 WCCot 4 MN  
 1058 KTCA 2 MN 1110  
 1059 WSAZ 3 WV 1100  
 KUSD 2 SD 920  
 1100 KDLH 3 MN 1250  
 1107 WRALt 5 NC  
 1110 WFMY 2 NC 1175  
 1115 WBTV 3 NC 1105  
 1158 WWAY 3 NC 1250  
 1159 WTWo 2 IN 935  
 1229 WSJK 2 TN 1010  
 1317 WSM t 4 TN  
 1331 WKRN 2 TN 820  
 1344 WDIQ 2 AL 730  
 1358 WTVYt 4 AL 795  
 1432 fade/outs  
 1612 unids channel 2  
 1625 WFMY 2 NC 1175  
 1632 WWAY 3 NC 1250  
 1636 WKYC 3 OH 1250  
 1638 WDLVt 4 MI  
 1648 WJBK 2 MI 1225  
 1652 WBTV 3 NC 1105  
 1659 WSJK 2 TN 1010  
 1700 WSM t 4 TN  
 (MUF to VOR's-1749)  
 Es? 1746-48 ?? 7 CBS?  
 (0 kHz to KTBC )  
 Es (MUF 94.9-1945)  
 1956 WCCot 4 MN  
 1957 KTCA 2 MN 1110  
 2030 KNOP 2 NE 815  
 (MUF 94.1-2118)  
 2231 KNAZ 2 AZ 855  
 2250 fade/outs  
 18 Es 1112 tune/in unids 2  
 1128 WDTN 2 OH 1075  
 WENSt 5 OH  
 1129 WCMHt 4 OH  
 WKYC 3 OH 1250  
 (MUF 99.9-1155)  
 1230 WJBK 2 MI 1225  
 1232 WGRZ 2 NY 1420  
 1250 fade/outs  
 1332-40 unids ch 2  
 1510 unids channel 2  
 1610-1630 unids ch 2,3  
 1628 WDTN 2 OH 1075  
 1641 KDKAt 2 PA  
 1715-1820 unids ch 2,3  
 1820 KNAZt 2 AZ  
 2025-30 unids ch 2 s  
 20 tr 2220 KLD0 27 TX 145  
 21 ms 1429 KQTV 2 MO 750  
 24 Es 1120-1130 unids 2,3 ne  
 26 Es 1103 unid ch 2 Span  
 1110 YSU t 4  
 1117 YSR 2 1200  
 (MUF 89.0-1121)  
 1128 TGV t 3  
 1220 fade/outs  
 27 Es 1220-1230 WESH t 2 FL

A rather healthy December level of E skip considering how the summer season slumped after mid July.

The December 14 E skip event may have reached channel 7, but the suddenness with

Pat Dyer (continued)

which the CCI went away reminded me of what sometimes occurs when both the main and auxiliary transmitters are running before the auxiliary is shut down.

Well, hopefully I'll be able to keep these reports coming a little more regularly now than I was able to in the 1981-1984 period.

\*\*\* (Good to have you back, Pat! We'll be looking forward to regular summaries of south Texas TV DX conditions. fm)\*\*\*






Fred McCormack, 135 Prairiewood Drive, Fargo, ND 58103

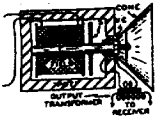
CST

Equipment: VHF: Broadmoor 9" black & white, Winegard CH-7078; UHF: Magnavox 19" color, Winegard CH-9095, Blonder-Tongue CMA-Uc pre-amp; Alliance rotor.

December 1984  
 27 tr 0005 KHIN 36 IA 390 27 tr 0119 WHO 13 IA 385 27 tr 0856 WKOW 27 WI 445  
 0100 KTIN 21 IA 305 0825 KTIN 21 IA 305 0900 KCBR 17 IA 385  
 KVIN 24 IA 310 0921 WTVV 18 WI 505  
 KSIN 27 IA 300 KRIN 32 IA 395 0928 WMTV 15 WI 445  
 0102 KCBR 17 IA 385 0855 unid ch 17 ABC 0959 WLEF 36 WI 315

Nothing too spectacular, but a nice relief from the usual winter DX fare here. I did manage to miss the traditional December E skip.

 <p><b>State Department of Education</b>  <b>4411 Amnicola Highway</b>  <b>Chattanooga, Tennessee 37406</b></p>	 <p><b>Mike Griffin</b></p>
 <p><b>WCEE-TV MOUNT VERNON, ILLINOIS</b></p> <p>Delivery Address          Route 1 Box 71          Keok, Illinois 62853</p>	 <p><b>WVIZ-TV</b>          4300 Brookpark Road          Cleveland, Ohio 44134</p>
<p><b>WPGH TELEVISION</b></p> <p>PROCASTING GROUP MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION          750 HUNTER AVENUE PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15213</p>	
<p>Grace Communications Corporation</p>  <p>P.O. BOX 1411          BLOOMINGTON, IL 61701</p>	
<p>ENGINEERING DEPT.</p> <p><b>WUAB 43</b>          LORAIN - CLEVELAND          8443 DAY DRIVE          PARMA, OHIO 44129</p>	



## Technical Topix

### PART 1. Subsidiary Communications Authorization (SCA)

With over 1000 FM stations having been granted SCA in the U.S. "48", it seemed to me that my DX tuner would be incomplete without some means of listening in. In experimenting with the LM565 I.C. to decode SCA broadcasts, I put together some notes which will be shared in two parts. Part two comes next month...

The 565 is sold by Radio Shack (276-1720, \$2) and enables one to use PLL (phase lock loop) technology and skip some rather nasty circuit design--some of which I've tried in college and do not like. A PLL is a circuit which locks onto a signal and tracks. The PHASE of the output signal and the phase of a reference signal are compared, and the difference, if any, is used to correct the output so as to track the reference. This gives the PLL system the obvious advantage of seeking or tracking a signal.

Upon eyeballing the linear databook for the 565, I found the basic circuit to make the chip work as an SCA decoder, and have reprinted it here as Fig. 1. The .001 cap on pin 7, along with an internal resistor, form a filter that determines the capture characteristics of the PLL. The frequency of the reference signal, generated by an oscillator on the chip, is adjusted by a voltage on pin 8. A 5K pot gives a tuning range of 44 to 167 kHz, which covers all the SCA "channels." If the circuit is powered by 9V, the PLL will "lock on" to a subcarrier if tuned within about 60 Hz--thus the adjustment of the pot is not very critical. Remember the PLL will seek the signal.

The resistive voltage divider on pins 2 & 3 bias the input transistors on the chip. The two 510pF caps, and their resistances to ground form a two-stage, high-pass filter which remove the normal FM program and the stereo pilot at 19kHz. A signal amplitude of 80-300 mV is needed here from the tuner. The 3 resistors and 3 caps on the output form a low-pass filter to provide de-emphasis (a fancy term for noise and treble attenuation). About 50mV of signal is available at the output, and audio frequency response is good out to about 7kHz. By the way, the maximum power for the chip is 26V.

This circuit was built and checked out, and works well for strong, local stations. On my tuner, I needed about 200mV of signal to get good, clean SCA. For my purposes this was hardly exciting, but would work well for portable radios, perhaps, if one was only interested in hearing the SCA of a particular local station, i.e. Talking Books. Note also that the 50mV output is a little low for the line-level (i.e. "aux" or "tape in") inputs of many hi-fi amplifiers.

The cost of parts for the circuit of Fig. 1 ought to be less than \$5, and perfboard construction is fine--just be neat and keep all leads and wires short. And be alarmed that kits consisting of this circuit have been seen by this writer for as much as \$20! Oh! and the 510pF caps can be replaced with 470pF units. The three caps in the low-pass output network of course adjust audio tone effect, so values can be toyed around with without losing the SCA or anything else drastic.

The circuit draws only about 10mA, and is very well powered by a 9-V battery. Of course, DC can be drawn from the radio or tuner.

For better performance, the circuit needs an amp stage at the 565 input so that weaker signals can be decoded. That simple addition is shown in Fig. 2. This preamp circuit appeared in the mag Electronics Hobbyist, Spring '79, as an article by Hero Friedman, "Super SCA Soother." The 531 is a high-performance, high-slew rate op amp which is somewhat expensive (\$5) but probably worth it. The 531F is in a shielded TO-5 can, and the cheaper 531V is in an 8-pin DIP. Either

chip works well, as I've built three of these decoders. The avid experimenter could no doubt come up with a cheaper or better amp stage, but 741's do not do well here. The stage frequency response is that of a low pass filter with gain. The 10pF cap is for compensation. The 741 stage added to the output of the decoder boosts the 50mV audio up to the 500mV line level normally expected by audio amps. Also, one can effect tone control here, if desired. If the SCA is too "screaky" for your taste, a disc capacitor can be soldered from point "A" to ground to cut treble response. Alternatively, a small cap can be soldered across the 2.2K resistor for treble boost. The whole circuit was found to draw about 20mA...which brings up the issue of power.

Because current requirements are low, two 9-V batteries can be used. Power can certainly be drawn from the tuner, IF it has both voltages available (bipolar). Chances are if the tuner has I.C.'s, there will be a bipolar power supply. I mounted the smallest JT transformer I could find and a small rectifier (Radio Shack #276-1161) directly on the P.C. board. If the decoder is powered by anything other than 9V batteries be sure to solder a 0.1 disc cap and a 100uF cap as close as possible to the 531--between each of the supply pins and ground. This bypass on each power line is necessary to keep A3 hum out of the audio.

Yes, it works! I have the version of Fig. 2 installed in a Pioneer F-5 tuner with a switch on the front panel to click it in via a relay. The decoder provides a clean SCA output for signals around the quieting limit of my tuner (about 30uV). DX is certainly SCA'able with this circuit, if assembled neatly on a PC board. This probably will not work well on perfboard, although the Fig. 1 circuit will perform satisfactorily if hand-wired. Next month, I will share some details on how to find the SCA connection in a FM tuner, provide the printed circuit board layout for Fig. 2, and whatever else I can come up with.

Incidentally, the NE531 is made by Signetics, Inc., which probably has a sales rep in your area. By mail order, both chips are available from Jameco Electronics, 1355 Snowway Road, Belmont, CA 94002.

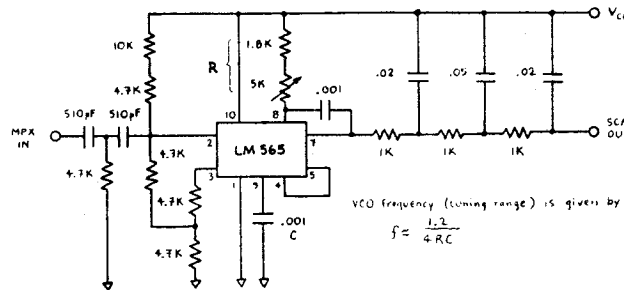
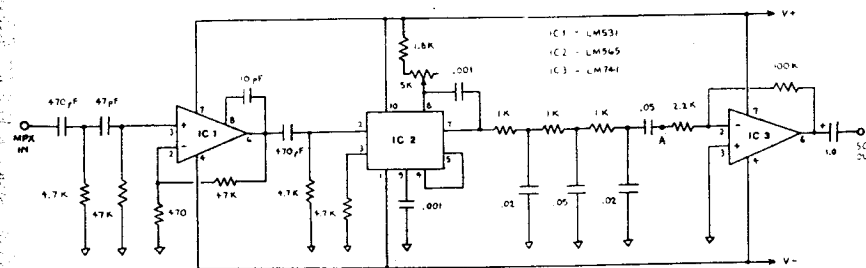


FIG. 1 →

FIG. 2 ↓

VCO frequency (tuning range) is given by

$$f = \frac{1.2}{4RC}$$



SOUTHERN FM DX

Danny Buntin
1312 N. Skyline
Stillwater, OK 74075

SOUTHERN FM DX

Dyer, cont.

FEBRUARY 1985

February 1985

DEADLINE: 10th

For FM DX reporters from: AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, DC, DE, FL, GA, KS, KY, LA, MD, NC, NM, NV, OK, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA & WV.

DECEMBER HAS SOME GOOD SKIP DATES

Pat Dyer, 5315 Silvertip Dr., San Antonio, TX 78228 - Sept. 1 to Dec. 31, 1984 CST
Equipt: Realistic TM 1001 tuner into Allied 426, Archer 6-e. beam at 20° with rotor.

Table listing radio frequencies and call letters for stations in the Southeastern US, including calls like 9/6 Es, 1608 TG, 1610 TG, etc.

Table listing radio frequencies and call letters for stations in the Southern and Western US, including calls like 11/24 Es, 1614 TG, 11/25 Es, etc.

Table listing radio frequencies and call letters for stations in the Southern and Western US, including calls like 12/2 Es, 2044 WXRC, 2053 WLMI, etc.

Table listing radio frequencies and call letters for stations in the Southern and Western US, including calls like 12/13 Es, 0502 WDEK, 1823 XHNPT, etc.

-Comparative Es FM total times chart begins next page.....

## Comparative Es FM total times

1982			1983			1984			
day	#	min	day	#	min	day	#	min	
Jan	4	5	245	-	-	1	1	20	
Feb	2	3	65	-	-	2	2	45	
Mar	2	3	20	3	5	3	6	40	
Apr	2	2	25	1	1	6	11	420	
May	13	25	990	9	15	585	14	29	1035
Jun	22	46	2235	20	50	3430	19	43	2180
Jul	20	44	2555	22	51	3300	13	30	670
Aug	8	10	135	9	12	460	6	16	205
Sep	-	-	-	3	3	25	4	4	30
Oct	-	-	-	2	2	20	2	3	10
Nov	1	1	40	3	3	255	9	12	120
Dec	3	4	250	4	10	150	9	12	615
tot	77	143	6560	76	152	8755	88	169	5390

As can be seen, in spite of a very strong 1984 Apr and a good May the rest of the year was downhill until Dec. I don't think I've ever seen such a rapid fall in July.

Bob Timmerman, 2409 Woodway Dr., Orlando, FL 32821

12/2 Es		12/2 Es	
1959 XHAAA 93.1 TA Reynosa	2042 KMUV 89.1 KS Wichita		
2000 KITY 92.9 TX San Antonio	2047 KWLS 93.1 KS Pratt		
2027 KBEZ 92.9 OK Tulsa	2050 KFDI 101.3 KS Wichita		
2030 KWEN 95.5 OK Tulsa	12/14 Es		
2038 KMCK 105.7 AR Siloam Springs	1855 KZLE 93.1 AR Batesville		

I'll be moving to Auburn, IN sometime around late January or early February. If I don't get any more, DX these will be the totals for my log (started on 4/19/84; 130 different stations-1 MS, 6 tr (minimum distance 450 miles), 123 Es.

Jim Pizzi P. O. Box 1778, Lovington, NM (505) 396-3251 - 88260 12-1 to 12-16

12/2 Es		12/2 Es	
1839-2015 Mexico City FM's	1939 WFUZ 93.7 FL Ocala, k	1292	
1840 WHRS 90.7 FL W. Palm Beach, tent., c	1940 WVTI 107.1 FL Melbourne, r, ad	1418	
1842 WCIE 91.1 FL Lakeland, g	1943 WELB 105.9 FL De land, calls	1346	
1843 XHLM 96.5 MOR Guernavaca, tent. L, SS	1944 WYKS 105.5 FL Gainesville, ad	1274	
1844 XHRN 96.5 VER Veracruz, ads	1945 WGNB 98.5 FL Panama City, calls	1071	
2025 "Eata Es Rn"	1953 WIVY 102.9 FL Jacksonville, calls	1300	
1847 XHOM 107.5 VER Coatzacoalcos, L, SS	1954 WNFI 99.9 FL Palatka, ads	1319	
1849 X??? 103.7 VER Jalapa, ad	2000 XHZN 91.9 MIC Zamora, was 92.1	876	
@1902 "Optical Barcelona" on Jalapa	"Estereo color" ?? ads in Zamora		
"ciento tres" 103, r	2002 WUCF 89.9 FL Orlando, reggae mx	1359	
1850 XHTS 102.9 VER, Ver, r, ads	2006 XHRA 89.9 JAL Guad., calls +	840	
1850 WCKO 102.7 FL Pompano Beach, r, K-102	"Stereo soul", r		
1851 WJJP 106.7 FL Ft. Lauderdale, ad	2024 XHPS 93.3 VER Ver, ads	1032	
1851 WHLY 106.7 FL Leesburg, r Y106,r	2029 XHNF 97.7 NAY Tepic, \$, r, calls +	840	
1857 XHPR 101.3 VER Ver., ads	"Novienta Ocho" (98)		
1907 XHRC 91.7 PUE Puebla, Estereo	2036 XHME 89.5 JAL Puerto Vallarta, ads, L		
Amistad	12/10 MS		
1907 XHRJ 92.5 MEX Toluca, r	1144 WSB 98.5 GA Atlanta, tent..at 99-FM"		
1909 WRYO 98.5 FL Crystal River, g,	tr		
1912 WHOO 96.5 FL Orlando, k	1202 KGFO 98.5 OK Tulsa	473	
1913 unID 90.8 or 90.9 Mexico, nx station,	12/11 MS		
ad ment. Las Palmas	1046 WJCS 98.5 MI Houghton Lake, calls	1260	
1915 unID 92.1 Mexico, "Crystal FM stereo"	12/12 tr		
in SS "Romantic mx" but then played rock,	1039 KSNM 98.7 NM Truth or Consequences,		
XHPT Cordoba?	\$, rock oldies, ID	235	
1921 WPCV 97.5 FL Winter Haven, calls	1053 KASK 103.1 NM Las Cruces, Love 103,r	199	
1922 WTKA 92.3 FL Orlando, ads	Es		
1924 WJYO 107.7 FL Mount Dora, Joy-108	1517 XHRN 96.5 VER Veracruz, ads	1032	
1926 XHSH 95.3 DF Mex., ID	1535 XHNE 100.1 VER Coatzacoalcos, r, \$, ads		
1928 XERC 97.7 DF	1540 XHOM 107.5 VER Coatzacoalcos, m, ads	1140	
1929 WEGM 98.9 FL Tallahassee, FM-99	(Ch-oh, out of time, Jim's report will be		
1931 WSHE 103.5 FL Ft. Lauderdale, calls	continued next month, sorry, DB.)		
1934 WBJW 105.1 FL Orlando, ads		1359	

## QSL CORNER

Thomas J. Yingling, jr.  
221 Pinewood Road  
Baltimore, MD 21222-2345  
1-301-282-5649

SC WRJA 88.1 Sumter, P. O. Box 1836, 29150. Send back my prepared card after 1 followup report. Signer from Engineering Manager, but name is unreadable. Reply in 2 1/2 weeks. Holbrook
VA WNVZ 104.5 Virginia Beach, 160 Newtown Rd, 23462. Letter from Juanita M. Myuck with bumper sticker & Z-104 button. Holbrook
MD WHFC 91.1 Bel Air, Harford Community College, 401 Thomas Run Rd, 21014. Letter from John A. Davlin, Station Manager & Asst. Professor, Mass Communications. Reply in 2 weeks. Holbrook
WHFS 99.1 Annapolis, box 829, 21404. Send my prepared card signed by Stephen Hopp, Operations. Holbrook
PA WSHH 99.7 Pittsburgh, Broadcast Plaza, Crane Ave. 15220. Send my card signed by Craig A. Kopcho in 4 months after followup. Holbrook
IA KHKE 89.5 Cedar Falls, Univ. of Northern Iowa, 50614. Letter from David Hays, Public Information Asst. Cooper
NY WCTO 94.3 Smithtown, Box 74, 11747. Letter from Marc Sophos, Asst. CE. Cooper
ME WKTJ 99.3 Farmington. Letter from Al Ibarquien, CE Cooper
WKCG 101.3 Augusta, Box 307, 04330. Letter from Joseph R. Roy, Eng. Cooper
WPIG 95.9 Saco, Box 567, 04072. Letter from George Michael, Prog. Dir. also send coverage-map & bumper-stickers. Cooper
WBYC 94.3 Biddeford, 124 Main St, box 667, 04005. Letter from Lance G. Bird, Program Director. Cooper
WEBI 92.1 Sanford, box 1220, 04073. Letter from Andy T. Armstrong, CE also send coverage-map. Cooper
WKZS 99.9 Auburn, Washington St. Letter from Herbert Wiles, CE. Cooper
VA WNRN 94.9 Virginia Beach, % 500 E. Liberty St. Chesapeake, VA 23394. Letter from Charles Payne, Pomer/Pres. Holbrook
WNSY 97.3 Newport News % 2302 W. Mercury Blvd. Hampton, VA 23666. Letter from Will Bevis, CE in 1 month Holbrook
WUVA 92.7 Charlottesville, Station #1, 22904. Letter from Clifford Cantrell, Gen. Manager who tells of their 220 watts atop Carter Mtn., antenna 900' above average terrain & 1430' above sea level. Station is studen owned & operated commercial fm station as there is only 6 in the country. Holbrook
PA WGLL 92.1 Mercerburg, P. O. Box 92, 17236. Letter from Pete Low, VP & GM in 7 days for qsl. Holbrook
WXTU 92.5 Philadelphia % One Bala Cynwyd Plaza, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004. Verie notation on my report and copy of station license, from an unreadable signer & title! Holbrook

52000 WATTS • 101.9 MEGACYCLES

Paul R. Schorff  
Anchor of Radio and TV

wayne state university - detroit 2, michigan

Lee S. Unkles  
Asst. Director of Radio and TV

August 25, 1959

Mr. David Nieman  
16 Watson Street  
Buffalo 10, New York

Dear Sir:

WDFT broadcast a consolrad test signal at 7:03 EST, on August 19, 1959. This verifies your reception on that date. WDFT operates at 52 kW ERP.

Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Schorff  
Robert F. Schlorff  
Chief Engineer  
Radio Station WDFT

+++++  
This month reporters are Ernest R. Cooper & Hank Holbrook. & the copy from the past on the left is from David Nieman of WDFT-FM qsl from 1959!

Upcoming next month is TV-QSL's and also I hope to have it done my computer. I got the Commodore SX-64 for Christmas & will be printing on a Panasonic KXP-1090. So 73's to then!

Dear Fellow DX'ers,

February 1985

Just today I received a copy of Microwave Filter Companies C/84 catalog of filters and traps. This is one of the more excellent catalogs I have seen with traps, filters, and band-separators for every possible use. Although I have been familiar with MFC for quite some time, it has been only with their TVRO related products. Their reputation is unequalled in that area and I have no reason to believe otherwise about their other product. For a real treat check it out: Microwave Filter Company, 6743 Kinne St., East Syracuse, NY 13057. (free) Their products are however quite the opposite of free, they are not cheap to say the least.

As long as I'm giving addresses out I must eat a little crow for neglecting to include Channel Master's new address in the December directory. It is: Channel Master, Industry Park Drive, P.O. Box 1416, Smithfield, NC 27577. Thanks to Ed Frye for the gentle reminder.

Also coming in the mail today was an information package from a company called Bullseye products in Roseville, MI. They make a selection of tubing clamps which they show many do-it-yourself uses for including making your own tower sections by bolting conduit together with these things. Maybe the following quote from their brochure will sum up why I don't have much confidence in the idea. " Please note that we do not endorse these units, (towers) they are merely one person's idea...these units are not free standing and do require support...common sense should apply. " I guess!

Rick Wertman, club member from New York, has started an antenna business through which he would be very willing to supply club members with antenna supplies. Brands which he makes available are Channel Master, Winegard, Jerrold, Lance, Blonder-Tongue, and Antennacraft. Rick also has some good sources of supply for coaxial cable of various sizes. His address is: 315 Pine St., Lockport, NY 14094. All prices will be much less than list.

## SCANNER ANTENNAS

This discussion will be divided into 2 sections, mobile and base types. What must be understood though is that with both types we are talking about an antenna which must cover an extremely broad range of frequencies; from about 25Mhz to 50Mhz, from 130 to 174Mhz, and from 450 to 512Mhz. This being the case it is extremely difficult to say that this or that antenna is the best, period! Almost every scanner antenna has its' weak points and its' strong points. Therefore, this month's column will discuss mostly theory and how it relates to what is on the marketplace rather than a recommendation of what to buy. Also, since this is a very hobby-oriented market, it is quite possible that I will not mention your favorite antenna due to the simple fact that I do not know it exists. If you think that this is the case, please drop me a line.

MOBILE \*\*\* The 2 major companies of mobile scanner antenna are Antenna Specialists and Hustler. The main differences are in the mounting method and in the bands covered. Shown below is a chart showing major differences.

MOUNTING METHOD/BRAND		BANDS COVERED		
		ALL BAND 25-512Mhz	130-174Mhz And 450-512Mhz	25-50Mhz and 130-174 Mhz
ROOF/	A-S	MONR 33	MONR 1	
	Hustler	MOR		
TRUNK/	A-S	MONR 32	MONR 2	
	Hustler	MOT		
MAGNET/A-S		MONR 51	MON 9	
	Hustler	MOM		
GUTTER/A-S			MON 30	MONR 12
COWL/	Hustler	MOU		

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## Scanner Antennas (cont.)

Antennas of the same frequency category are basically the same performance wise, the only difference being in the mounting. The way that multiple band whips work is that a coil is placed somewhere in the whip so that the entire whip is electrically long to cover the low-band. However, the coil and length of antenna above it are effectively blocked out for the high frequencies by a trap at the bottom of the coil so that only the lower, shorter portion of the antenna is used for the higher frequencies, it being resonant at a higher frequency. Also, the whip(s) can operate in both the  $\frac{1}{4}$  and  $\frac{5}{8}$  wavelength modes thereby extending their usefulness even further. It can be noted here that performance most probably is higher on the antennas which do not attempt to cover all bands but obviously, overall usefulness suffers. Talking about usefulness brings one more item to mind. Both A-S and Hustler make a coupling device which allows the scanner to be hooked up to the standard am-fm antenna along with the car stereo. Although the performance of this set-up will not equal a true scanner antenna and will also degrade fm performance abit, it does keep a minimum of antennae on the exterior of the vehicle. One last note, depending on brand, you may find that your fm booster helps reception quite abit in the 130-174 band. If this is working good for anyone let me know what brand booster it is and I'll print it for other's information. One more last note, Radio-Electronics Magazine did a non-technical review of the Hustler MOM antenna in January 1980, you may find it in your local library.

BASE \*\*\* OUTDOORS \*\*\* There are 5 types of commercially available scanner base antennas currently on the market: The ground plane, the dipole, the dipole cluster, the disccone, and the log periodic. Ground plane types are very simply big brothers of the mobile types just discussed. Examples from the A-S line are listed below.

MON 3	130-512Mhz
MON 8	25-50 & 130-174Mhz
MONR31	25-512Mhz
MON 38	" " " (economy)

Dipoles are the simplest form of antenna with about the only version for PSB use left on the market being the Winegard SW-2200. Because of poor multi-band performance, this type of antenna is losing popularity.

Dipole clusters on the other hand hold a respectful share of the market and for a good reason: performance. Basically all that they are is a cluster of dipoles each cut for the center frequency in each band of interest. Examples of this type are the Channel Master 5094 and the top of the line Radio Shack model. Although these two look entirely different, the theory behind them is the same. It is my personal belief that the Channel Master 5094 is the best omnidirectional PSB antenna available on the market at this time.

The disccone is an antenna type that has been around for quite some time in one form or another. Original disccones were made from solid metal or screen and consisted of a cone with its' apex pointing skyward and a disc "balanced" on top of it. Being somewhat hard to keep up in a windstorm, the PSB disccones of today are made of elements approximating the shape of a disc and cone. The advantage of this type of antenna is the tremendous frequency range it can work with. Currently both Hustler and A-S market such a product. Both work very well.

The last type of available antennae is the log periodic type of which there is only one that I know of, the Grove Scanner Beam. This is the only directional antenna I am aware of for general scanner use. It looks about like a Vhf tv antenna mounted with the elements vertical. In fact that is almost exactly what it is. If you are interested in reading a review of this product, see Radio-Electronics Magazine, October 1981. If however, you would like to make a similar product out of a small Uhf-Vhf tv antenna, Mr. Grove has been so kind as to write an article on this himself and you can find that in the August 1979 issue of Popular Electronics. These are excellent antennas for working various headings, skip, etc., but are not the antennas you want for listening to 2-way communication when it's coming from opposite directions from your listening sight.

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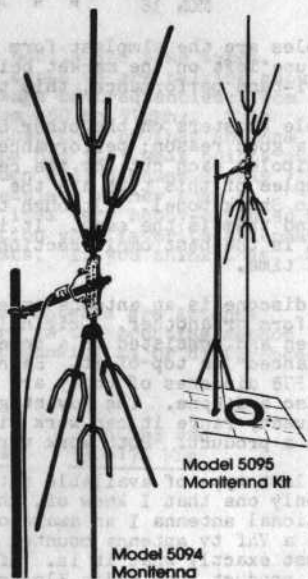
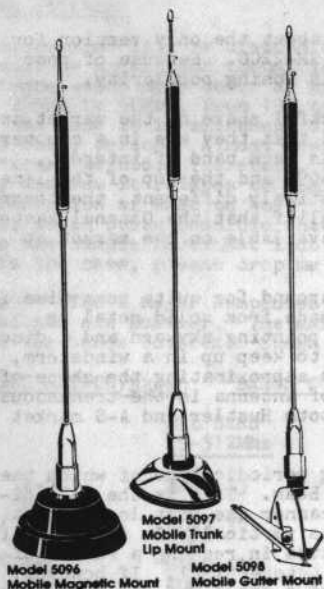
**BASE \*\*\* INDCORS \*\*\*** Although you can dx with the telescoping whip supplied with most scanners, for very little money you can do quite a bit better by making some simple dipoles out of 300 ohm twin-lead and attaching them vertically to your wall. These can be separate dipoles or you can try your hand at making a cluster arrangement. With a simple balun to connect to some coaxial cable you're all set. While we're on cable, I would rate RG59 (tv coax) a quantum leap better than RG58 (cb coax). Going into the higher frequency bands you will notice quite a difference between these two. Back to homespun antennas taped on the wall, you will probably have to bend the ends of a lo-band dipole over due to its' overall height being greater than the 8 feet given in most residential homes. If this is the case, it would be best to bend them to run along the corner of the ceiling-wall and the floor-wall rather than to bend them all the way back on themselves. An antenna made in this way will (or should) outperform the stock whip by a great margin.

**PREAMPS \*\*\*** Most PSB preamps that have been commercially available have been discontinued. Although the reason is unclear, I would guess that it has something to do with the fact that many scanners do not take well to overly strong signals at all. Maybe many of the preamps were returned as defective when really the problem was in the scanner. Anyway, there is probably at least one dx'er who would still like to try hooking a preamp onto his scanner. The best solution I have found is to use an economy model U-V tv preamp. I suggest the economy types because they usually do not have any out of band filtering as the better units often do. I know a scanner dealer in northern Michigan who has done this on several occasions and has been very successful.

ADDRESSES: Grove Enterprises  
Erasstown, NC 28902

Hustler Inc.  
3275 North B Ave.  
Kissimmee, FL 32741

Thanks for reading. *Ray*



This month we have photos taken in August & September of 1984 by long-time DXer, Bill Eckberg from Dixon, IL.



KGIN-11 Grand Island, NE  
458 mile tropo from Aug. 22, 84



KTBO-14 Oklahoma City, OK  
612 mile tropo from Aug. 24, 84



KOHK-25 Oklahoma City, OK  
612 mile tropo from Aug. 24, 84



KLFY-10 Lafayette, LA 809 mile  
tropo from Aug. 25, 1984

# TELEVISION NEWS

Bill Fahber, editor  
336 Atlantic Street  
Bridgeton, NJ, 08302

60 5000 1358 TX San Antonio; TV60 Partnership  
39 23 730 IN Fort Wayne; Fort Wayne Public Television Inc.  
54 5000 680 NE Omaha; Omaha Channel 54  
59 - - NJ Vineland; Petrum Broadcasting (Which requests facilities of WRBV, ch. 65. Fat chance; the transmitter for ch. 65 is too close (by 21 miles) to WNJY, ch. 52 in Trenton to be used for ch. 59. You think they would have learned that when they filed their first application (see 12/84 VUD).)

**APPLICATIONS RETURNED**  
TX San Antonio; ch. 29; Santa Gertrudis Broadcasting (CP was granted to Alamo Broadcasting two years ago, but since they never got call letters, it's possible that the permit had been contested.)  
FL Miami; ch. 35; Rene Antonio Lopez  
Also returned: All the applications for educational channels by Community TV Associates listed in the 12/84 VUD. According to Larry Fuss none of them had engineering data.)

**APPLICATIONS DISMISSED**  
MI Warren; ch. 38; Michigan Channel 38 Inc.  
KS Lawrence; ch. 38; Kansas Family TV Ltd.  
CA Santa Rosa; ch. 62; Black Television Workshop (FCC Review Board decision)  
NY Jamestown; ch. 26; Retherford Publications  
NJ Burlington; ch. 48; Delaware Valley TV Ltd.  
MN Duluth; ch. 27; Haynes Communications Co.  
TN Cleveland; ch. 53; Philip B. George  
VA Charlottesville; ch. 64; Charlottesville 64 Ltd.; Locus Poenitentiae (at their request).  
FL Orlando; ch. 65; Metro Broadcasting Inc.; Winter Park Communications Inc. (specified Winter Park, FL); reversal of initial decision which granted Metro's application.  
CA Vallejo; ch. 66; Golden State Television Inc. (Initial decision)  
AZ Green Valley; ch. 46; Skyline Communications Group  
CA San Luis Obispo; ch. 33; Morro Rock Resources Inc.  
KY Pikeville; ch. 51; Ralph W. Gabbard  
TN Nashville; ch. 58; Nashville TV 58 Inc.  
TN Cleveland; ch. 53; Philip B. George (at his request; four others still contending for the channel.)  
Further note on Charlottesville, VA: The only two contending applications for ch. 64 were both withdrawn, making that channel dormant.

**CONSTRUCTION PERMITS GRANTED FOR NEW STATIONS**  
35 5000 722 MS Vicksburg; Vicksburg Broadcasting Group  
69 5000 387 RI Block Island; John Joseph Fuller & Jerrell E. Kautz  
62 2421 2010 CA Santa Rosa; Bay North Educational Television (Review Bd)  
26 750 698 NY Jamestown; Jamestown TV Associates  
42 5000 1563 NE Omaha; Pappas Telecasting Inc (Review Board decision)

**APPLICATIONS FOR NEW TELEVISION STATIONS**

CH	ERP	HAAT	STATE/CITY/APPLICANT
48	1000	208	WI Chippewa Falls; Pat Bushland
49	4360	1520	FL Tice; Ralph W. Gabbard
49	5000	1018	FL Tice; Qualivision of Lee Cnty.
49	5000	800	FL Tice; Tice Television Company
49	5000	1126	FL Tice; Florida Telecasting Inc.
49	5000	192	FL Tice; Reginald L. Duff
60	2980	910	FL Sebring; Focus Be't Communics
25	5000	1423	FL Tequesta; Tequesta Be'g Corp.
40	2800	954	TX Crockett; Drew A. Hayford
21	2323	1249	TX Nederland; TRG Broadcasting
10	316	1269	NM Gallup; Grand Canyon Televis'n
10	316	155	NM Gallup; Haynes Communications
20	736	-114	HI Hilo; Josie Moore
10	316	43	NM Gallup; Contemporary Communic.
60	5000	1244	VA Roanoke; Roanoke TV 60 B'cing
51	5000	454	AZ Tolleson; Great Arizona Be'g
68	87.1	341	FL Clermont; Big Chief Broadc'ing
51	5000	590	FL Marianna; H&W Broadcasting
63	5000	1006	FL Palatka; American Communications & Television Inc.
63	5000	973	FL Palatka; Palatka Television Inc
25	5000	1423	FL Tequesta; Tequesta Television
25	5000	1423	FL Tequesta; Sandra Corr Jordan
25	5000	1491	FL Tequesta; Tequesta Television Partners
25	5000	1889	FL Tequesta; Zephyr Be'ing Corp.
25	5000	993	FL Tequesta; Rodriguez-Barnett & Associates, Ltd.
25	5000	1423	FL Tequesta; Martin Telecommun'ns
25	4539	999	FL Tequesta; Old Salt Broadc'ing
25	5000	1436	FL Tequesta; Tequesta Coastal Broadcasting Ltd.
25	2500	515	FL Tequesta; G&I Ltd.
25	5000	1424	FL Tequesta; Spirit Broadc'g Corp.
51	1618	459	KY Hopkinsville; Green River Group
62	1000	480	ME Presque Isle; Allen M. Weiner
53	5000	784	OK Tulsa; Kilgore Broadcasting (Thurman's behind this one)
50	5000	925	TN Memphis; Burwood Broadcasting
55	1636	522	TX Conroe; Conroe Community Educational Outreach
55	3160	1132	TX Conroe; Wood Broadcasting Co.
55	1000	847	TX Conroe; G-A Communications Inc
55	1500	1545	TX Conroe; Conroe Broadcasting
40	1000	332	TX Crockett; Hopkins Broadcasting
52	5000	1133	TX Fort Worth; Halton City Be'ing
60	2222	1484	TX San Antonio; Vela Broadc'g Co.
60	5000	1483	TX San Antonio; Thomas TV Assocts
60	2000	1400	TX San Antonio; Televisa Corp.
60	5000	1433	TX San Antonio; Spanish American Broadcasting Inc.
60	5000	1422	TX San Antonio; San Antonio Be'ing
60	5000	1370	TX San Antonio; Pro 60 Communic'ns
60	5000	1319	TX San Antonio; Fiesta Communic's
60	5000	1035	TX San Antonio; Nueva Vista Productions
60	1000	809	TX San Antonio; Salinas-Oatman
60	5000	1368	TX San Antonio; Amistad Communications of the Southwest Inc.
60	5000	1348	TX San Antonio; San Antonio Video
60	3500	975	TX San Antonio; Hispanic Broadcasting of San Antonio



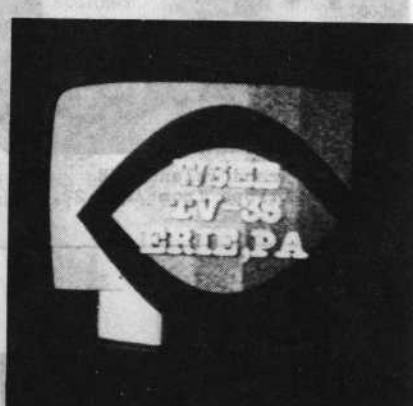
KARD-14 West Monroe, LA  
651 mile tr from Aug. 25, 1984



WPTT-22 Pittsburgh, PA  
491 mile tr from Aug. 26, 1984



WFMJ-21 Youngstown, OH  
450 mile tr from Aug. 27, 1984



WSEE-35 Erie, PA 481 mile  
tropo from Aug. 27, 1984



WLOS-13 Asheville, NC 558 mile  
tropo from Sept. 12, 1984

Bill Eckberg's photos will  
continue next month.  
  
Dave



two different construction permit modifications floating around, supposedly granted close to each other. The first one, granted 9/27/84, has 3258 kw max; 1541' AAT/1517'AG/1647' ASL; coordinates 30°35'18"/87°03'16"; TL to Hwy 87, 0.9 mile south of Hwy 10 in Eleanor. A later modification has 3289 kw ERP, 1493.2' AAT.

**PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS**

Pittsfield Community Television Association filed a notice with the U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington, D.C. to review the FCC's decision denying its application for channel 51 and granting the application of Housatonic Broadcasting Company.

**PETITION TO REASSIGN NEW YORK CITY VHF ASSIGNMENT TO LONG ISLAND**

The FCC has denied a petition by the Long Island Coalition for Fair Broadcasting Inc. to delete an unspecified VHF television channel assignment from New York City and reassign that channel to Long Island. The Coalition argued that the New York City VHF stations do not have a primary service obligation to Long Island and therefore are not meeting the informational needs of that audience. (As you may recall, the State of New York passed a law barring the publication and sale of any newspapers on Long Island, as well as the broadcast of any local news on AM and FM station on the island.) The Coalition also claims that Long Island has taken on all the attributes of a distinct community except for the existence of a VHF commercial service available to other, more traditionally developed, population centers.

The FCC, in its infinite wisdom, brought up several reasons for denying the petition. The petition did not specify which channel, nor to which community it should be reassigned to. Nor did the coalition express an intention to operate a station on a reassigned channel. Since the petition proposed that the affected station's transmitter remain in New York City, it could not meet the FCC's coverage requirements for the whole island.

The FCC's general scheme in channel assignments provided VHF channels for central cities of metropolitan areas and UHF channels for smaller areas.

**LOS ANGELES STATIONS VS. THE HANDICAPPED**

The FCC had affirmed a staff action of March 30, 1983 which renewed the license of KTLA-TV in Los Angeles and approved its transfer of control from Signal Companies Inc. and the estate of Ina S. Autry to Golden West Television Acquisition Company.

Sue Gottfried and Stanley Fleishman, representing the California Association of the Physically Handicapped, had opposed the station's renewal and transfer of control, and when the Mass Media Bureau granted the station's applications they petitioned the FCC's Review Board to reconsider the decision. They objected that KTLA-TV had not captioned its programming for the hearing impaired, had not made a commitment to improve programming, and had made no commitment to hire and promote qualified handicapped persons.

But the FCC held that, in accordance with

a decision made by the Court of Appeals some time ago, said that it was not responsible for enforcing Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act, which requires that government contractors hire qualified handicapped persons. Meanwhile Gottfried, CAPH, and Darrell McDaniel Independent Living Center have gone a step further with the license renewals of the other Los Angeles stations: KCOB, KCBS, KTTV, KNBC and KABC. They had opposed the original grants of license renewals, petitioned the FCC to reconsider the license renewals, and, when the FCC refused to reconsider, filed a notice with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. Very likely they will take the KTLA-TV case to the Court of Appeals also.

**DBS STATUS**

When the FCC granted the interim applications for DBS operation, they were to be subject to the outcome of the 1983 Region 2 Administrative Radio Conference (RARC-83). The applicants would have until January 5, 1984 to modify their construction permits to conform to the Final Acts of RARC-83, and until July 17, 1984 to demonstrate due diligence requirements. Due diligence means that they must have completed contracting for construction of the satellite within one year of the grant, and having a satellite in operation within six years of the grant.

GBS Inc., the only one of the original applicants to advocate high definition television, dropped out of the DBS race, and its construction permit was cancelled by the FCC.

DBSC signed a contract to have Ford Aerospace construct two satellites, but since the contract is conditional upon DBSC's ability to secure funding, the FCC has not yet assigned frequencies and orbital slots yet.

Graphic Scanning Corp, bogged down in an effort to assert its qualifications as a licensee for an answering service, had fallen behind schedule and requested an extension of its deadline to fulfill its diligence requirements. The FCC refused to grant an extension, and cancelled its construction permit.

RCA Americom, in its application to modify its construction permit to conform to RARC, also made other major changes such as more channels and lower power, and proposed a later launch date. Since due diligence standards could not be met, the application for modification will be treated as a new application to be considered after the FCC completes processing of its second round of applications.

WU decided to drop out of DBS and its construction permit was cancelled.

STC, still going strong, was granted its modification and is authorized to launch two satellites to cover the entire continental United States ("CONUS") from an orbital position of 110° west longitude on DBS channels 6, 8, 10, 12, 14 & 16.

Dominion Video was granted authority to launch two satellites, each covering half-CONUS from an orbital position 179° west longitude on even-numbered channels from 6 thru 28. Dominion Video requested two more

channels for each of its two satellites, but that application will be considered after the FCC completes its processing of second round applications.

USSB was authorized to launch two satellites into an orbital position of 110° and 148° west longitude on channels 18, 20, 22, 24, 26 & 28. Each satellite will transmit all six channels to half-CONUS. An application by USSB for two additional channels for each satellite will be included with those applications to be processed after the second tier applications.

**MORE DEREGULATION: BIGGER VBI AND HBI?**

Under current FCC rules, the Vertical Blanking interval is limited to 2 1/2 lines and the Horizontal Blanking Interval is limited to 11.44 microseconds. But with today's technology where a video signal is often processed many times between the camera and the transmitter, those standards have become difficult to keep. In 1978 the FCC adopted a policy in which violators of those standards would receive Advisory Notices instead of Notices of Violation while it looked into the matter. (That is, unless the violation became too serious, in which it would send a Notice of Violation). The National Association of Broadcasters suggested that the VBI maximum be increased to 2 3/4 lines and the HBI to 12.2 microseconds.

On November 19, 1984 the FCC adopted a Notice of Proposed Rule Making in which it suggested that the present figures be retained, but that a note be added to them indicating that they are recommended values only.



**NOBODY TOPS GAYLORD'S KHTV**

KHTV Channel 39 in Houston unveils The "Ball Room" Tower. It's a high-flying achievement of true Texas proportions—2000 feet. Taking it from the top, there will not be a taller tower in Texas. And it will be the tallest ever constructed. Our tower's state of the art antenna will deliver KHTV viewers a sharper picture, better color and clearer audio. Add of course it will increase our coverage of the ever-growing Houston area. The Ball Room has given a boost to KHTV. For years, we've been proud to be the station that brings television's golden programs to the country's 4th largest city. Like this ball's bounce, this includes favorites like The Dukes of Hazzard, Cliff Stiles, Stacey, Beare and Far Albee. Now KHTV is coming on stronger than ever.



**FORUM**

As you can tell, I got my typewriter back. It took three weeks before the shop got a chance to look at it, and about a week to fix. So I got it just in time to start this month's column. Bruce Elving told me that his IBM typewriter broke down just after he finished his column last month.

One local observation: WRBV, channel 65, is no longer using STV in the evenings. In fact, it's not doing anything in the evening. The subscriber list got so poor that Wometco Home Theatre decided to drop the station. The station is still not over its financial problems. Its previous owner, Donald McMeans, is still trying to get it back. Others are also interested in buying the station.

Tom Holmes sent in a clipping from the 1/10 Charlotte Observer. W68BL in Charlotte, NC, plans to go on the air on 2/15, and will offer Premiere, a pay-TV service. Zenith decoder boxes will be sold instead of rented, and movies will be broadcast entirely on a pay-per-view basis. \$3.95 for each prime time movie and \$1.95 for afternoon movies. The station will show only two movies each night, and weekend matinees. The rest of the time, if at all, will be spent promoting Premiere. W68BL will transmit a 1 kw signal from the First Union National Bank building, and will reach homes within a radius of 25 to 35 miles.

Fred McCormack sent in a large list of updates and revisions to translators in his area. I also have a sizable list. In addition he sent me an article a few months ago which discusses low power television interference to cable systems. I'm planning to use these in next month's column. Those who already have a copy of the 1984 LPTV-Translator list and have changes to be made, please send them in. If you haven't ordered a copy yet, what are you waiting for?

For 20 years...  
**The Hispanic TV station**  
 26 Chicago  
 3rd Largest Hispanic Market in the U.S.  
 Now joined with Channel 55—Milwaukee

For 20 years, featuring the top Spanish language programming!  
 • More News  
 • Instructional Favorites  
 • More music and variety  
 • Emmy Award Winning Live programming  
 • Top stars  
 • Live News—Weather—Sports

Mid-America's Hispanic Metropolis  
 Over 800,000 Hispanics in four states. Reaching more viewers in Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana and Michigan with transmitters in Chicago (26) and Milwaukee (55).

For more information on Mid-America's Largest Hispanic Market, call Peter Zengoff, 312-643-6268  
 WCTV-TV 26/35  
 WJ-TV Jackson, Ind.  
 Chicago, IL 60604

Mid-America's Hispanic Metropolis



**John Combs** commented on the LPTV-XLTR List: "It seems like you list any LPTV/xltr that is licensed or a CP, whether or not it ever went on the air or is still on the air. For instance, the Imokalee and Ft. Myers xlters have been off-air for at least 10-15 years. The TV shop that had the license to operate them is long since out of business. They were used in the days when WINK-11 was the only receivable signal in the area." The translators in both cities are still licensed to Leeko TV Inc. in Fort Myers. And you're right, John. With no way of knowing which of the thousands of translators are operating, the only thing that any translator list can do is list licensees and permittees. Apparently they still have the license, or somebody does. "I also contend that W29AB is much more powerful than the .015 shown." Probably right. They are 1 kw ERP. Most likely the 15 watts should have been 15 kw.

A postcard sent from John mentions that WJXT-4 and WTLV-12 in Jacksonville, FL, are jointly building a new tower. See the 10/84 WUD for more information on that tower. An article in a local paper said that ch. 25 in Orange Park, FL, plans to start up in 1985. (The station is owned by Clay Television but I have no address on it. Sorry, John.) Also, a LPTV on channel 10. (That's W10AX, 616' omnidirectional, 10 watts TPO. There were six applicants for the channel, and four of them specified the same coordinates that were in the construction permit. I don't know which one of them was granted the CP.)

Another article from John says that WJXT in Jacksonville, WPLG-TV in Miami, and WSP-TV in Tampa are getting together to form the Florida News Network, which is intended to share statewide stories and increase exposure of Florida news throughout the country. It's the first state network of its kind in the country.

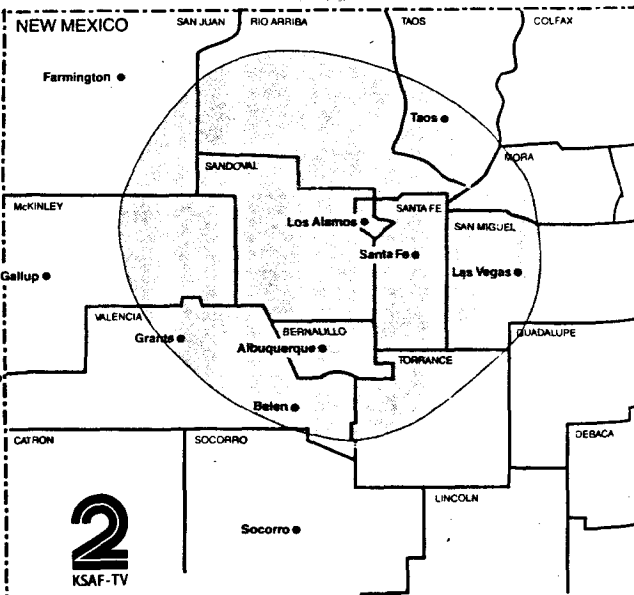
**Randy Miltier** was in New Mexico last October and visited the KSAF-TV facilities in Santa Fe. "I Talked to the Director of Engineering, Massoud Salarvand, who is also the person to send reception reports to. (Address is 2009 Pacheco Street, Santa Fe, NM, 87501; phone #(505)473-2002 -wbf) I asked him if the station's main target area was the Albuquerque market (Albuquerque has a 350,000 plus population and Santa Fe has about 55,000 .... dumb question, right!) He said he didn't know much about mark-

ets and gave me the impression that Santa Fe was their only interest.... Originally KSAF wanted to construct their tower on the Sandia Range where all the radio and TV stations are, however, they got shot down because there just wasn't any room for one more tower. (strangely enough the Sandias shadow Albuquerque). KSAF had to go to a mountain near Santa Fe. The mountain didn't have a name so they gave it one....No Name (honest injun!)." Okay you guys, this is channel 2 and is a good shot for skip reception for a good part of the United States, so keep this information handy.

Randy sent in an article from the 11/29/84 San Jose Mercury News. KTSP-TV, ch. 26 is no longer broadcasting Selec-TV STV service. Vision Entertainment Ltd, which owns Selec-TV, went bankrupt. There were originally 32,000 subscribers in the area, but at the time they ceased STV service, there were only 7000 customers. The customers are now left with useless unscrambler boxes. KTSP-TV has been showing movies and Topper reruns until it can decide what to do with its evening schedule. (WTVE, ch. 51 in Reading, PA, also offers Selec-TV. Wonder what's going to happen with them.)

The 11/28 Mercury News, also sent in by

## Coverage Area



Randy, describes an interesting situation. KICU-TV, ch. 36 in San Jose, CA, is included in the San Francisco-Oakland market area, the fifth largest market. KNTV, ch. 11 in San Jose, is in the Salinas-Monterey market area, the 108th largest. Although the studios of the two stations are only a few miles apart, their coverage areas are different, putting them in separate market areas. But since KICU is in a larger market, it has to pay up to six times as much for syndicated programs as a station in the Salinas-Monterey market. Rather than pay the extra dollars to compete with other stations in the San Francisco market, KICU-TV decided to file an antitrust suit in U.S. District Court against the other stations and program distributors.

This next article from Randy also goes into that border area between the two markets. KSBW-TV, ch. 8 in Salinas, started its new transmitter last fall, extending its coverage area into Santa Clara County. This opened up the possibility of creating a new market area out of the counties of Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Benito, pulling them out of the San Francisco and Salinas-Monterey market areas. But in order for that to happen, KNTV, ch. 11 in San Jose, would have to transfer over to the San Francisco market. Then it, KICU-TV and KSTS (ch. 48) would have to get more viewers in that area than the average of each of the five largest San Francisco stations. The only problem is that KNTV would be taking a risk. KNTV originally joined the Salinas-Monterey market so that it could get ABC affiliation, since the San Francisco market was already well covered by ABC. If KNTV went back to the San Francisco market and the attempt to create a new market fails, it could lose its ABC affiliation. And, of course, it would have to start paying five to six times as much for syndicated programming as it is now paying. KNTV and KSBW-TV are splitting the cost of a special study by Arbitron Rating Company of viewership patterns, so apparently KNTV may be interested in the idea.

**W.R. McIntosh** sent a clipping from the 10/29/84 Los Angeles Times about KTLA, ch. 5 in Los Angeles. Not only is it going to stereo television, but it is airing The Love Boat with a second audio channel in Spanish. Its nightly news program will also be bilingual. Although Los Angeles already has a full time Spanish station (KNEX, ch. 34), its programming is almost entirely Mexican. The station is now trying to get as many stereo movies as it can.

**John Ebeling** sent a news clipping involving KXLI-TV in St. Cloud and KMSP-TV in the Twin Cities. As background, you may recall Ron Purdue's comments that KXLI is broadcasting much of the same syndicated programs shown in the Minneapolis-St. Paul stations, despite the fact that there is quite a large overlap of coverage areas. In checking with the FCC regulations, I found that since the communities of license (not with any regard to overlap of coverage) were more than sufficiently far apart, KXLI-TV was allowed to air the same syndicated programs as the Twin Cities stations. In this article from the 11/5/84

Minneapolis Star and Tribune, KMSP-TV, channel 9, asked the FCC to change the rules so that KXLI-TV would not be able to duplicate programming aired by Twin Cities stations. The rules presently allow stations whose communities are more than 35 miles apart to duplicate programming. St. Cloud is 60 miles from the Twin Cities. What hurts is that the Twin Cities stations have to pay seven to ten times as much for the same programs as KXLI.

The KMSP-TV petition to the FCC requested that KXLI-TV be considered a Twin Cities station, forcing it to pay the same rates and preventing it from duplicating programming. Stu Swartz pointed out that the KXLI transmitter, located between St. Cloud and the Twin Cities, and the fact that KXLI's sales office is in Minneapolis, indicates that KXLI-TV is more interested in the Twin Cities than St. Cloud. In ratings taken last spring KXLI averaged only 2% of the viewing audience of the Twin Cities, but nearly all of its audience consisted of Twin Cities viewers.

I'm wondering if KXLI's owner, L.E.O. Broadcasting, is going to do the same thing with its station in Seaford, Delaware when it goes on the air.

**Frank Aden Jr.** sent in an article about KWHP, channel 14 in Boise, Idaho. Some months ago Frank reported that KWHP, not yet on the air, would not be able to build its transmitter in the same area as the other Boise stations. Now it has other problems. Everybody's trying to figure out who owns the station. Abe Thiessen, president of Sterling Communications of Chattanooga, says he owns the station. But Steve Matlock, president of Matlock Communications also claims to own it.

Sterling was originally granted the Construction Permit (WOW! They didn't call it a license for once!) several years ago. Matlock and Sterling made an agreement to transfer control of the station to Matlock, and got FCC approval, according to Matlock. But Sterling says the FCC turned down the transfer of ownership. Matlock claims that he paid \$14,000 to cover expenses incurred by Sterling in securing its permit.

Matlock plans to create a satellite network of stations in Spokane, Idaho Falls, LaGrande (OR), Vernal (UT), and Winnemucca (NV) with programming originating from the Boise station. Thiessen proposes family oriented programming with an emphasis on local news.

**Dave Nieman** sent in two articles about efforts by WNEB-TV, ch. 17 in Buffalo, NY, to get approval by the Grand Island town board to build its new 1372' high tower at 871 Whitehaven Road, next to WUTV, ch. 29. This new tower should increase WNEB-TV's coverage area by 895 square miles. Dave says, "It looks like the first step in their plans to put channel 23 on the air. This should free the Elmwood Ave. tower for the channel 23 antenna." Channel 23 is WNEQ-TV, which is owned by the Western New York Public Broadcasting Association, which owns channel 17.

**Ed Shepherd** says the signal from WBTU-3 (Charlotte, NC) comes in good in Hickory NC from their new tower. Ed was in Italy and tried to dig up some information on Italian

television, but things over there were confusing. "The hotel I was in seemed to have some sort of cable that carried lots of channels. Each channel also had a dial that could be turned to pick up another network. There were about 20 different stations and some were carried on more than one channel. I'm not quite sure how it works. Saw lots of stuff, though, a partial listing follows:

RAI 1 (Italian)  
RAI 1 (Italian)  
RAI 3 (Italian)  
GBR (Don't know what it stands for - Italian)

ReteQuattro (Italian)  
TVS/Voxson (Italian)  
Musicbox (Italian MTV-type station)  
Rete A (Italian)  
Ch. 56 (Italian-mostly sports)  
Ch. 21 (Italian)  
TV6 (Italian)

"Also saw French & Monte Carlo TV but can't remember the network. If anybody out there knows how this system works I'd like to find out because it was very confusing."

I dug up an article from an old magazine, Television Quarterly, or something like that. The article, Television, Italian Style, was written by Bernard S. Redmont about two or three years ago. Here are some excerpts.

"At last report, Italy had 640 private TV stations." "In terms of area covered, Italy has ten times the number of stations as the U.S." "Proliferation developed when private interests took advantage of newly apparent legal loopholes. The courts shaved down the government monopoly of RAI (Radiotelevisione Italiana -wbf) in 1976, by allowing private stations to operate 'locally.'"

"Many of the private stations are now grouped into 'networks,' by a makeshift system, using video cassettes. The private TV networks present their shows simultaneously, offering advertisers a national audience, by working five days ahead, and dispatching their video cassettes to affiliates by plane, train, truck and motor scooter."

The big three networks are Canale 5 (27 affiliates), Italia 1 (18 affiliates) and Rete 4 (23 stations). GRT is a syndicator that supplies programming to 20 affiliates, but the affiliates have freedom to make their own schedule. Similar to GRT is Euro-TV with 30 stations.

"In addition to this superabundance of channels, Italians also pick up Italian-language TV transmissions from Monte Carlo, Capodistria (Yugoslavia) and TV Svizzera in Switzerland, as well as French TV on Corsica. Until 1976, when the constitutional court broke the RAI monopoly, Italians could only receive their boredom from RAI-1 by switching to an almost equally boring but somewhat more highbrow and left-wing RAI-2. By allowing free 'local' broadcasting, the court opened the way to a virtual free-for-all. Now most big-city residents of Italy have a choice of three RAI channels and often 15 private stations. Rome offers more than 30."

"When the local stations began in 1976, most were amateurish and badly financed. Many

delved into latenight pornovision.... Italian private TV acquired a bawdy reputation with such offerings as Hot Skin, Fanny's Secret Diary and The Vestal Virgin of Satan. These raunchy peep shows were eye-openers in more than one sense and kept much of the nation awake night after night for a long time." "All this has waned, but not vanished. Church leaders protested the blue shows. The feminist movement charged exploitation and demeaning of women. And in a few instances, the courts ordered some independent stations closed for obscenity, although no general program codes exist. What really did in the game fare was that it didn't produce much commercial revenue." "In addition, the independent stations began to seek more respectability and prestige, vis-a-vis the public and Parliament."

Eward Frye sent a clipping from the 11/18 Albany Times Union: an article written by Debbi Snook, critical of Fred Malbone, general manager of WUSV, ch. 45 in Schenectady (or should that be Albany), who isn't saying much about when the station is going on the air, what type of programming it will have, how much it will cost to get the station on the air, or anything else. The article quotes him, "At this point we're not going to tell the market everything. We're assembling a little press release here, not with the intention of opening up everything and telling everything about the station or even letting anybody in for a tour." The press release said that the station would be on the air "early in December." "Malbone refused to be more specific. Local viewers may refuse to believe him. Announcements of the station's expected sign-on have been echoing since early 1982. So have several extensions to a license (sic) initially granted to Union Street Video by the Federal Communications Commission." "Malbone confirmed that movies, 'lots of movies,' will be part of WUSV, but ruled out local programming 'in the real immediate future.'" "And as for sports, Malbone said he is interested in broadcasting local games, if we can work out some sort of amicable deal with the franchisers."

It came across announcement for LPTV stations on channels 59 and 63 on Long Island. "What I find amusing are the reception 'instructions,' notably recommending twinlead for an outdoor UHF installation. Could 59 and 63's output be so low that the higher attenuation figures of coax might render their transmissions unwatchable?" I can't figure it out myself. Let me know when WUSV comes on and give me some idea of its program schedule.

Ronald J. Fritz sent in an article from the 12/8/84 Los Angeles Times about Low Power TV. While much of the article is a rehash of background to the development of LPTV and economic aspects, there are several points of interest. Milwaukee's W55AS, a satellite of WCIU-TV, ch. 26 in Chicago, is promoted as a Spanish station in the ad a few pages back. "The video menu on Milwaukee's Channel 55 is virtually identical to that of Chicago's Channel 26, a full power station whose owners control the Milwaukee outlet.

"W56AC, an outlet in McComb, Miss., halfway between Jackson and New Orleans, beams movies to subscribers who rent signal-decoder boxes for their sets.

"Alaska has a whopping 194 low-power stations; many of them are part of a state-run network designed to keep the capital, Juneau, in touch with Point Barrow and other remote communities. But some do strictly local programming-like a rock-music station in Anchorage.

"Channel 43, the low power station that went on the air in Hopkinsville last July, is drawing viewers and advertisers with its local news and farm shows." "The station's undisputed star... is an electronics graphics and weather-map generator"

Two letters from George Wilson (Actually some members sent me as much as three letters that are included in this month's column. Some of the letters I didn't get to in the December column, then my typewriter broke down as I began the January column. So I'm including about 2 1/2 months of letters here.)

"An article about channel 58 in Hyannis (MA) ... claimed that channel 58 was one of the most expensive LPTV operations in the USA. The article stated that the station invested more than a million in its operation. They have quite a good size staff and have produced quite a few local programs. They also have syndicated shows and carry CNN Headline News. They claim to reach Nantucket with their signal, but from what I have read their signal is unusually weak even for a low power station.

"Channel 64 in Providence is now in the TV Guide. (The usual syndicated programs and old movies like many of the other independent operations in the area.)"

"No word on channels 60, 62, and 66. As far as I can tell, none are on the air." (George is referring to WQOT, ch. 60 in Merrimack, NH; WFFP, ch. 62 in Lawrence, MA, and WJVV-TV ch. 66 in Marlborough, MA. None of them are on the air yet, despite having construction permits for about two years.)

An article George sent states that a Superior Court Judge granted a request by Franklin Graham, president of WFDG-TV, ch. 28 in New Bedford, authorizing attachments of up to half a million dollars each against John Lakan and William Barnstead, who went back on their agreement to buy 65% interest in the station. Lakan has been involved in some dubious business dealings which were reported in the Boston Globe.

Bruce Elving sent in an article about two LPTV stations granted construction permits for Lincoln, NE. Neighborhood TV Co., Inc. was granted channel 67, and will likely offer adult contemporary 24 hour music videos with local news interspersed. Neighborhood TV feeds its local stations by satellite from Phoenix. Vision Unlimited was granted channel 61.

Bill Draeb sent an article about WIRE-TV, channel 26 in Green Bay. The McMan Companies, Inc., which owns or controls 85% of the stock in WIRE-TV, has gone bankrupt. The station will remain on the air, but it is for

sale at about \$12 million.

Bill sent a copy of a letter from Central Michigan University to him, describing how its stations operate. Its two new stations, WCMW, ch. 21 in Manistee and WCMV, ch. 27 in Cadillac, are over-the-air repeaters. WCMW-21 picks up WCMV-21, which picks up WCMU-TV, ch. 14 in Mount Pleasant. A chain of microwave relays carries the signals of WCMU-14 to WCMV-TV, ch. 6 in Alpena. From WCMV-6 the signals reach W46AC in Traverse City and W69AV in Leland. I noticed in Bill Draeb's reception report that he first logged WCMW-21 and WCMV-27 on 9/7/1984.

Speaking of reception reports, I found some more new stations just on the air that had been logged by club members. Bill Draeb logged WGVK, ch. 52 in Kalamazoo, MI, on 10/2/84, an educational station paralleling the programming of WVCW, ch. 35. He also reported what was suspected for a few months: WOIO, ch. 19 in Shaker Heights, OH on 10/11. Roy Barstow logged WUSV, channel 45 (mentioned in the last page) transmitting a 3/4GBT, so evidently they will be broadcasting soon. But Jeff Kadet had a logging which puzzles me. He mentioned that WJUM, educational channel 22 in Macomb, whose transmitter is only two miles from his house, went on the air on 10/17/84, with programming parallel to WJPT-14, obviously in Jacksonville. I have record of construction permits issued to West Central Illinois University for channels 14 and 22 back in early 1983, but no record of them having been granted call letters, or even having applied for them. It seems that somebody is being very secretive about these stations. Could it be I was right about educational stations being fronts for covert CIA operations?

Jim Pizzi sent a clipping about a license (sic) being awarded to Linda Clevenger for a LPTV station on channel 31 in Farmington, NH. Jim has also been sending me questions about some of his translator loggings, which I have been trying to figure out. There seem to be a lot of translators popping up that aren't on any list in the Texas-Oklahoma area, many of them repeating KOKH, ch. 25, AFDA, ch. 10, KZTV, ch. 9, and KVII, ch. 7. Be patient, Jim. I'm still trying. I still haven't gotten Iron Mountain, Michigan straightened out yet.

Larry G. Fuss of Contemporary Communications supplied some information that was missing in the November and December columns. First the November column. The CP for Bloomington ch. 63 was 2510 kw at 1108' AAT; Ch. 22 in St. Joseph, MO was 1280 kw max at 790' AAT. Ch. 45 in Lincoln, NE was 770 kw at 500' AAT. According to Larry, the CP for Iron Mountain is for 31.6 kw at 655' AAT, which was granted on 9/27/84, which I had, except for the ERP. Before that, I had another listing which was unfortunately complicated by two typographical mistakes. It should have read 31.6 kw, granted on 9/26/84. I noted the dates because there were two separate grants according to FCC releases. Evidently the 9/27 grant was a correction of the antenna height given in the 9/26 grant, which would explain why there was no ERP given on 9/27.

On some of the call letter grants for new stations I couldn't find what channel they were on. Larry supplied them. WZDX, Huntsville, AL is ch. 54; KOTT in Vernal, UT, is channel 6; and KKON in Claremore, OK, is ch. 35. Also he corrects me about there being a construction permit on channel 45 in Minneapolis. I remember the channel being active lately, but only because of a few construction permits.

On the 12/84 column, Larry confirms that there is still an outstanding construction permit for WFFP-TV on Dothan, Alabama channel 60 despite the fact that Wireless Broadcasting applied for the channel recently.

I also mentioned the construction permit extensions granted four Charleston SC VHF stations, for which I had no record of any construction permits. Larry provided that information. All four stations have a CP to locate to a common tower at coordinates 32°56'13"/91°26'42". WCBD-2 has a CP for 100 kw at 1940' AAT; WCIV-4 and WCSC-5 are both 100 kw at 1826'; WITV-7 is 316 kw at 1728'. A CP for ch. 24 (WTAT-TV) calls for the same tower at 5000 kw and 1610'. The CP modification for Newark, AR, KLEP ch. 17 appears to be nothing more than a correction of coordinates. "The original CP specified 14.9 kw at 530 feet.... The application specifies the same power and height.... 14.9 kw is rather dinky." I have the original CP at 1386.7 kw max/1330.4 kw hor. and 520' AAT, with a subsequent modification to 126.18 kwmax/121.05 kw hor with the same height and coordinates. So where did 14.9 kw come from? It may be dinky, but when you consider the station is owned by a public school system with a transmitter 1.3 mile north of Newark, it certainly doesn't need 1386.7 kw.

Bob Langridge learned from a reporter for the Quad-City Times that KJWB, ch. 18 in Davenport expects to go on the air around Spring 1985, and KDAV, ch. 30, hopes to be on in late 1985. But, as Bob points out, the reporter described KDAV as a low power station, but has a CP for 5000 kw.

Locally, for some reason I can't figure out, the Philadelphia Inquirer decided to do an article on KLMG, channel 51 in Longview, Texas. Then again, the Inquirer habitually prints meaningless articles. What's really strange is that it refers to the station's having received a construction permit without calling it a license. I guess that's because it was written by a reporter for the Dallas Times Herald. Judging by the editorials and some articles, low levels of intelligence must be a qualification for employment.

Clara McLaughlin, graduate from Howard University and author of several books, and host of a local Houston television station, decided to start her own television station. She picked Longview because the area didn't have any local television stations. Viewers in the area originally didn't know how to tune in a UHF station, but now local stores have a hard time keeping UHF antennas in stock. The station is a CBS affiliate, and reaches an eleven-county area. Although Mc-

Laughlin and half of the station's investors are black, there is no minority programming in the schedule. They know that Longview is not going to support a black station with black programming. But blacks in Longview who have supported the station are expecting KLMG to add minority programming soon.

CANADIAN NOTES FROM WALTER PATTON

CHANGES GRANTED

ALTA Harvie Heights; CBRT-13: to change from ch. 61 to 22; from 10 watts to 100 watts

B.C. Tofino; CBUT-22, ch. 10: to change primary station from CBUT-7 to Anik (43 w)

NFLD Bonavista; CJNB-TV, ch. 10: change from .23 kw to 12.7 kw

NFLD Grand Bank; CJOK-TV-1, ch.2: change from 7.4 kw to 4.67 kw

NFLD Grand Falls; CJCN-TV, ch. 4: change from 26 kw to 55 kw

NFLD Stephenville; CJSV-TV, ch. 4: change from 775 w to 3.1 kw

QUE. Malartic; CFCL-TV-5, ch. 5: change primary station from CFCL (Timmons) to CBMT (ch. 6, Montreal). Still CBC;17.1kw

CALL LETTERS

ONT. Windsor; calls for ch. 22 appear to still be CKGN-TV-1 not CIII-TV-1 (218kw). However Mike Reid says the transmitter burned years ago and has not been rebuilt.

APPLICATIONS FOR NEW STATIONS

ONT. Belleville; ch. 53; 61.3 kw; to rebroadcast CICA (ch. 19, Toronto; TVO)

ONT. Kingston; ch. 38; 62.78 kw; to rebroadcast CICA)

SASK Regina; ch. 13; 190 kw; Saskatchewan Ind. TV (Allarcom)

SASK Regina; ch. 13; 200 kw; Saskwest TV Inc.

SASK Regina; ch. 13; 190 kw; STN TV Network

SASK Saskatoon; ch. 4; 59 kw; STN TV Network Ltd. (to rebroadcast Regina ch. 13)

SASK Saskatoon; ch. 4; 59 kw; Saskatchewan Independent TV

SASK Saskatoon; ch. 4; 57 kw; Saskwest TV Inc.

APPLICATIONS FOR CHANGES

SASK Norquay; CICC-TV-2, ch. 7: applied to change from 7.8 kw to 4.2 kw

CANCON is seeking to add WXYZ-TV(7) ABC Detroit to its satellite package.

The two surviving Pay-TV companies have split the country between themselves. SuperChannel serves Manitoba and west. First Choice is in Ontario and east. Their French language service, Premier Choix is now only available in the east.



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