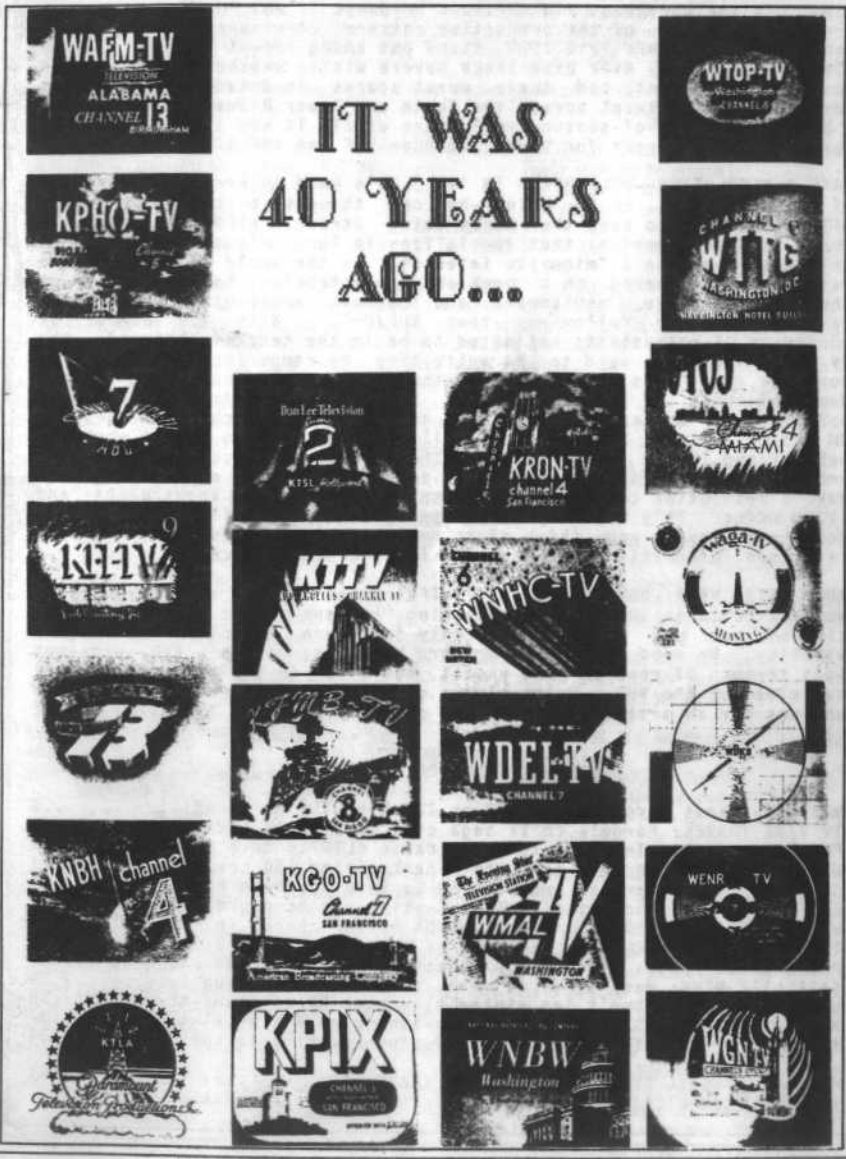


Vhf-Uhf DIGEST

The Official Publication of the Worldwide TV-FM DX Association

JANUARY 1991

IT WAS
40 YEARS
AGO...



WORLDWIDE TV-FM DX ASSOCIATION
POST OFFICE BOX 514-BUFFALO, NY 14205-0514-USA

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Wf-Uhf DIGEST

The Official Publication of the Worldwide TV-FM DX Association

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first class mail

11/91
WILLIAM N NOLLMAN
35 NYE ROAD
GLASTONBURY CT 06033

From The STAFF

WINTER COMES IN STRONG... In addition, some DX continued to do the same! In the Northeast and northern Midwest TV and FM DXers in most areas saw the end of the productive pattern of unusual ducting over rare paths that made late 1990 stand out among recent seasons. Some places that hardly ever experience severe winter weather, such as the West and Northwest, had their worst storms in decades, and while tornado activity swept across the South and lower Midwest, DXers noted a bonus--more out-of-season E-skip than usual. It was a wild end to a very interesting year for North American VHF and UHF DX enthusiasts.

MAKE A RESOLUTION--HELP WTFDA IN '91... It's hard to predict what kind of year 1991 will be for DXing--but one thing is certain: YOUR help will be needed to keep the hobby going strong. WTFDA is the only group in North America that specializes in long distance TV and FM. This has long been a "minority interest" in the world of DXing. One researcher who worked on a book about electronics hobbies tells us that the shortwave, mediumwave, and longwave areas of interest each have far greater followings than VHF/UHF. With the number of shortwave DX enthusiasts estimated to be in the tens of thousands, the TV/FM DX world is said to be quite tiny by comparison--only in the hundreds. All this is in spite of the fact that TV and FM are now the dominant modes of broadcasting. We still hear from curious DX hobbyists who are surprised to hear that there are such activities as FM and TV DXing! Some of our well-known members do great work in publicizing TV and FM DXing and WTFDA in their books and magazine articles--kind efforts that result in a steady flow of new members. Make a resolution to join them in spreading the word about WTFDA and TV/FM DXing. It's as easy as dropping us a note with the name and address of anyone you think might be interested in our hobby; we'll send them information, and when possible, a sample back-issue VUD.

AND--LET'S HEAR FROM YOU IN '91... WTFDA gains newcomers mainly through word-of-mouth in DXing, broadcasting, amateur radio and astronomy circles; but new members are only just one aspect of a club's vitality. We need to hear from more WTFDAers, both new AND old--not just through DX reports and photos, but also in the form of feature articles for the VUD. We're always glad to hear from someone who has an idea for an article--if YOU have one, why not drop us a line today?

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On the cover: TV IDs from 40 YEARS AGO via the January 1951 RADIO-ELECTRONICS! Thanks to Michigan WTFDAer Doug McAbree for this!

NWS NEWS

JANUARY 1991

IN THIS ISSUE:
 -WXM70 Spencer gets out...way out!!!
 -NWS DX distances well over 500 miles heard
 -and much more!!!

I have 3 brochures that list all the NWS stations and frequencies. They're from 1985. If you would like one, please send a SASE and I will mail it to you.

Matt Sittel
 PO Box 21421
 501C Wood Hall
 NCSU
 Raleigh, NC 27607
 (919) 546-9370
 Deadline: 2/1/90
 for the 3/90 VUD

JANUARY 1991

Another small column this time. If your DX was anything like mine, there wasn't a whole lot to report. NOTE: The above is likely not my current address. I'm probably moving to a new dorm room, and I should have been notified by mid-December. I should be moving into it as you read this, so my mail will get forwarded, and I'll try to get my address in print on one of my DX reports for next month's VUD...that is, if I move. Anyway, let's move on...
 William R. Hepburn, 1211-1547 Mississauga Vly, Mississauga, ON L5A 3X8 Canada

Equipment: Realistic PRO-2004 scanner, 12th floor balcony vertical dipoles.

AUGUST 1990

26 tr 0349 WXM70 162.500 WV Spencer 345
 0625 WXM74 162.450 WV Sutton 345
 "NWS Charleston" (same prgm as WXM70 but not // and with different ID)
 0713 WXM72 162.425 WV Hinton 410

AUGUST 1990

28 tr 0123 XMJ316 162.400 ON Collingwood 64
 (xmr @ Blue Mountain)
 (// XMJ225 Toronto)
 (on reduced severe wx cycle)

SEPTEMBER 1990

27 tr 1015 WXM70 162.550 WV Spencer 345

WXM70 is starting to turn into a regular pest here, hi!! Actually its a fantastic DX beacon for the south. The only station on this frequency (162.500) for miles around. Finally picked up my closest 'yet to get picked up' station, XMJ316 in Collingwood at only 64 miles. It took a severe line of thunderstorms rumbling through (to the southeast of Toronto at time of reception) in order to achieve this reception in two ways...(1) since the line was SE of Toronto it blocked out regulars Rochester and Erie on 162.400... (2) this strong line reflected back signals coming from the NW (much like radar does) and in fact enhanced all VHF/UHF reception coming from the NW (This same effect enhances reception of CITY-TV-57 and XMJ225 down in Niagara Falls where reception is pitiful despite ALREADY being line-of-sight--in this case the heavy rain must be NW of Toronto).
 Enuf 4 now, CU, Bill.

Frank Merrill, PO Box 669, Macomb, IL 61455

JUNE 1990

08 tr 1931 WXJ77 162.400 IN South Bend 240
 "on top of Springfield to 0400+, rare"
 09 tr 0623 WXJ74 162.475 IL Rockford 145
 "Rockford temp., N. Central IL forecast. FINALLY! Tough because WXJ71 Peoria/WXK82 Hannibal, which are my 2 strongest NWS stations, share this freq.--absurd spacing!"
 12 tr 2205 WXM70 162.500 WV Spencer 500

JULY 1990

02 tr 0056 WXM28 162.400 SD Sioux Falls 370
 "MN/IA/SD tri-state forecasts--in all night!"
 2140 KIG65 162.550 WI Green Bay 305
 2144 WXM91 162.500 WI Park Falls 380

AUGUST 1990

26 tr 0137 WXM70 162.500 WV Spencer 500
 27 tr 0413 WXM74 162.450 WV Sutton 535
 0422 WXM72 162.425 WV Hinton 570
 "WXM71 co-ID"
 0519 WXM70 162.500 WV Spencer 500

JULY 1990

02 tr 0051 WXM91 162.500 WI Park Falls 380
 "WXM91 Duluth, broadcasting to a xmrtr at Park Falls..."
 (July 2nd DX continued above-mcs)

SEPTEMBER 1990

07 tr 0635 KIH61 162.400 NE Omaha 290
 "Omaha's climatic summary"
 0638 WXL62 162.475 IA Sioux City 325
 "Siouxland' wx summary"

NWS logged total now 32. Great going Matt on hearing Kansas!(Thanks, Frank!-mcs) Most-wanted here is WXL94 162.550 IA Waterloo, which has yet to be logged here for some entirely illogical reason. State totals: IN-7, IA-4, MO-7, NE-1, SD-1, WV-3, WI-5. I must thank WV for using the "newer" freq's, as none of them would have been possible (yet) on .400/.475/.550! I guess Gilbert, WV-162.525 is another most-wanted, because it would give me loggings on all freq's. Hope that all other people had great DX on whatever band they tried. 73. (I hate to have to tell you this, Frank, but you'd better "un-thank" WV as they moved Gilbert from 162.525 to 162.475. Baxley, GA is on 162.525, a little far, but you never know!!!-mcs)

I'm a little short on time this month (I have finals coming up) so I'll save my DX until next time. There isn't a lot to report. I was in Hickory, NC in September and I heard .400: Asheville, NC and Winston-Salem, NC. .475: Charlotte, NC. .550: Bristol, TN. It was in the middle of the day so I assume Bristol is always audible!(It really isn't all that far away.)

I hope you all had a great holiday season, and '91 will be a fantastic year for you! Be sure to check the NWS band, and please report your findings!!! 73's.....Matt.



Edited for publication by
Tom Bryant; 849 Todd Preis
Dr.; Nashville, TN 37221

Strange Bedfellows In Fargo (continued)

They even brought an old Pembina Broadcasting dream to fruition by moving channel 10 to Thief River Falls and starting up KBRR-tv there. The latest expansion for that group was the addition of KJRR (7) in Jamestown, ND. The KVRR group started out as a chain of independents but has since affiliated with Fox. All programming originates at KVRR..the rest of the stations are satellites of the Fargo operation.

**** CONJECTURE ****

THEORY #1: Since the pairing of John Boler and Earle Reinecke seems unlikely (if not downright illegal), perhaps the FCC transcript as reported in BROADCASTING was incorrect. The error could have occurred at either the FCC or the magazine. Unlikely, but possible. Although there is little to substantiate it, my opinion is that the application was reported correctly. I was living in North Dakota at the time and recall all the hubbub about the odd partnership when the announcement was made.

THEORY #2: Mr. Reinecke was in poor health when all this took place. He was either in the process of, or about to become involved in selling his 55.6% of WDAY-tv to the Fargo Forum (that transaction was approved July 20, 1960). He may have been at odds with the Forum over the financial negotiations and joined Boler in an effort to pressure the Forum into a better deal. It may even have been a retaliatory ploy. In any event, Reinecke had a lot of clout in Washington and probably wouldn't have had much trouble getting the Commission to OK his entrance into the channel 11 venture simply on the strength of his promise to dispose of his WDAY holdings.

THEORY #3: Knowing that he would be selling his WDAY shares to the Forum, Reinecke might have opted to act as a 'plant' of sorts in the NDBC camp..actually more as a liaison or buffer between WDAY and KXJB forces. WDAY had plans to start up a station (WDAZ-tv-8) in Grand Forks/Devils Lake which would create a sizeable coverage overlap with co-owned channel 6 in Fargo. In this scenario WDAY would tender only token opposition to the channel 11 application in return for like treatment from NDBC when the channel 8 application was made. This possibility is reinforced by an apparent lack of protest when KXGO-tv hit the air as an ABC affiliate contrary to promises made earlier to the FCC that it would be a CBS station rebroadcasting KXJB-tv.

WHY THE QUICK SALE? North Dakota Broadcasting Company did not enjoy the luxury of the seemingly unlimited resources of the WDAY/Forum combo. Considering the dismal financial performance of KXGO-tv, it's pretty safe to assume that NDBC viewed the channel 11 venture as a failure; and saw the property as something worth more dead than alive. Another factor was a need for cash to upgrade the Bismarck and Minot stations. A final consideration is that perhaps the winds of anti-trust were picking up, and NDBC simply decided to get rid of 11 before the affair turned into a full-blown storm.

NOBODY REMEMBERS: KTHI-tv Chief Engineer Roger Johnson was not familiar with channel 11 corporate affairs prior to his arrival in the early 60's. He did comment that considering Boler's reputation, almost ANYTHING could have happened..and probably did! John Boler had a long history of being a 'wheeler-dealer'; often of unpredictable nature. Retired WDAY-tv General Manager Sumner Rasmussen stated categorically that there were NO 'deals' between his company and KXJB-tv. (ed. note: Even if there had been, he may not have known about them as he was not in management at the time of the channel 11 application process.) Current WDAY/Forum President Bill Marcil said he didn't recall the Reinecke/Boler connection, but added that he was not living in the area at the time. Retired KXJB-tv engineer Lloyd Ericson didn't know whether or not Reinecke was a party to the channel 11 application, but did imply that unusual 'deals' were not uncommon at NDBC.

THE HORSE'S MOUTH?: Ericson suggested that I call John Boler (now retired and living in Palm Springs). Good idea, but a call I couldn't make for personal reasons. I was employed by Boler over 25 years ago at KXGO-AM. My exit from the company was not amicable; and to avoid opening old wounds I chose not to contact the one person likely to have the answers to this puzzle. I'll be the first to agree with those who accuse me of spineless investigative reporting, but this guy is a buzz saw I never want to run into again!

THE BOTTOM LINE: In final analysis, the pairing of Boler and Reinecke is the only questionable area of this report. If it did exist, what you've read has been the account of a most unorthodox license grant. If the Boler/Reinecke connection was a clerical error, consider the story a piece of fiction. In any event it did contain a number of oddities, and I hope you've enjoyed being a part of this chapter in broadcast history by way of the 'TV Time Tunnel' journey to Fargo. Until ALL the questions have been answered, this case is still open. If a solution is unearthed, you'll read about it in this column. Since this was such a lengthy feature I asked for permission to complete it in this issue thus allowing space for a new topic next month.

NEXT
1949 ROSTER OF STATIONS ON THE AIR AND PLANNED

(below: logos of stations mentioned in this series)



KTHI
EMPIRE STATE BUILDING
2,067
EIFFEL TOWER
1,472
WASHINGTON MONUMENT
555

telecasting from the Worlds Tallest Tower.



FM NEWS

Readers' Reports and FM Filters' News

A DXer I knew from the '50s reported in and ordered an FM Atlas. Len Kruse says WJOD 107.5 Galena IL now on air with 6 kw providing a good signal to Dubuque IA, doubling from its original 3 kw power. Jim Michaels is general manager. During a recent snowstorm, AM stations WDBQ 1490 and KPTH 1370 Dubuque really kept the residents of the area informed, Len reports. "Snowmobiles are hauling nurses to hospitals; driving is just impossible with the big drifts." I also heard from Bob Hawkins at WENS Indianapolis; he's a long-time DXer who has kept in touch since his days in the WTFDA in the early '70s. He reports the new Anderson IN station, WQME 98.7, is on the air, but his receiver would not tell him if it is stereo or not—too far away. Tom Cornell laments the loss of WFMT 98.7 Chicago reception in Kokomo (scooping it up with DX equipment), but says his kids like the Christian contemporary sounds of WQME.

Dave Sinclair sent a story about the new Camas WA station, KWQM 94.7. When the story was printed they wanted KMAS calls, but apparently AM station KMAS somewhere in Oregon didn't want to change to accommodate the Camas group. It expects to have sales offices in Vancouver WA or Portland OR—a rim-shooter, it looks like.

DXer D. Bruce Hall likes the new FM Atlas cover, "a great improvement and the graphics look more up to date. I hope the pages will stay intact better than my old Atlas, but I must admit with daily use your book gets a lot of abuse." He finds the maps somewhat useful. Apparently there's gonna be a new FM rocker in Belleville ON (frequency, calls, technical parameters unknown as of this writing). It will be headed by Roy Bonistel, former CBC TV program host. The CBC is considering changing its basic radio network from AM to FM. FM would change by 1994 from classical music to more contemporary music and such CBC programs as "Morningside" and "Ideas." The AM band would still carry stuff like "As it Happens" with a "more immediate, topical" focus, while a third network with commercials would be created. The article did not say if the third network would be AM or FM, or a combination, but CBC radio has been free of commercials for some two decades.

Bruce sent a write-up on the Magnum Dynalab FT-101A tuner, with a retail price in Canada of \$850, praising its excellent selectivity. The article speculates that a "super-duper, much-more-expensive model is in the works." I still have Al Ellis' former FT-101 tuner, one of the early models, for sale, and am lowering the price ninety dollars to \$450 plus \$14 shipping. It includes FM/SCS selectable from front panel switches (67 and 92 kHz) and 150-kHz Murata filters—identical in performance to the tuner I use for DXing. It's in excellent condition and includes the instruction manual.

Jim Cumbie has been unable to DX KXOX 96.7 Sweetwater TX. Whenever he was in the area, KVMX Eastland would come through. Perhaps KXOX is on the air, but doesn't get out like KVMX. He can't figure out what is going on at monophonic sister stations KYQX *89.5 Weatherford and KMQX *89.1 Springtown. Each seems to have different formats, but at times they

Bruce F. Elving, Ph.D., Editor
Box 336
Esko MN 55733-0336

simulcast, and seem to share the "FM-89" nonID only during simulcast periods. "After the first of the year I'll be buying some SCAdapters from you." The Austin TX newspaper was kind enough to give the FM Atlas a plug, and Karl Zuk called and promised one in "Monitoring Times."

Matt Sittel sent some welcome news with his FM Atlas order, but I would like to know if WZBB 99.9 Rocky Mount VA is stereo or not—"B 99.9," omitting the "point" when spoken. Keith Pugh sent some news, too, and he has been awaiting arrival of the FM Atlas. He says WKXJ 97.3 South Pittsburg TN is on air in stereo, 24 hours, ID with Chattanooga. From a TV newscast, Keith learned that WDRM Decatur is No. 1 in the ratings, followed by WZYP Athens, WRSA 96.9 Decatur, WAHR 99.1 Huntsville and WTAK AM 1000 Huntsville AL. WBHP AM 1230 Huntsville has hopes of buying WDRM 102.1.

Tom Bryant sent a cassette of WAMB-FM1 106.7 Donelson TN, with ID only for the AM station; probably the FM, which is stereo and directional, is not officially on the air—it might be program testing. Anyway, there's a low power commercial FM station for DXers to go after.

DXer Nigel Pimblett in Alberta says that apparently the CKUA-FM stations do not verify reception reports. "I haven't seen any QSLs out of them for the last several years." Also reporting in is longtime DXer Jim Hughes, who says the FM stations I show in Mackinac City and Gulliver MI remain off the air. "I don't do much FM DXing because of the monotony of sameness of music. I have no reason to want to listen to them (the regular signals). . . I like AM stereo, even more than FM stereo. However, I prefer good clean monaural high quality audio reproduction (such as WCCO in the Twin Cities and WQXR 1560 in New York city). Keep smiling."

"Love your column!" writes Stephen "Mr. Itacio" Springfield Ehrbar. "Please mention my airchecks in your column. I have great airchecks. Great audio quality! Fast service," using Maxell tape. If that plug inspires you, write Stephen at PO Box 3494, Daytona Beach FL 32118-0494 for a listing of what he has to sell. I think his airchecks are all 90 minutes long, and some are of historical interest.

This satire on easy listening music sent in by Bill Nienajadly, who wants to see my catalog of radios,



FCC-FM

publications and tapes. "Per Tim McVey (Nov. '90 VUD) article on filters, I have gone back and experimented using 150, 180 and 280 kHz filters. Sensitivity and readability increased a bit more using 280 along with the 180s and 150s. Adjacent channel rejection a bit less but still no major problems getting the adjacents. I'm using a TX-9800 Pioneer analog tuner. It takes five filters and of course I use the IC (molex) sockets. The TX-9800 I could recommend to anyone. It is a good analog tuner; Doug Allen uses it too!" Bill sent an article on the turndown by the FCC of low power FM and restricting FM translators to relaying primary signals, but not DXable signals unless a translator operator wants to do that without getting any compensation from the primary station. The article focused on Gerry Turro's 103.1 translator in Fort Lee NJ, and how it won't be allowed to originate programs in a populous county having no commercial FM station licensed there. Turro is planning a court appeal. The article mentioned educational stations WRRH Franklin Lakes, WFDU Teaneck and WRPR in Mahwah NJ, but failed to say that WRRH has not been on the air in six years! Bill's still waiting for his FM Atlas to come.

Jerry Monroe in Syracuse called and said he is successfully using 110 kHz filters in a tuner—probably in combination with 180s or 230s. He's getting a monaural CBC French station on 90.7, which I think must be CBOF Ottawa. Jim Pizzi sent a central CA FM station list from the "Fresno Bee." It has KEFR Le Grand's frequency wrong, showing it as 88.5, not 89.9.

Mark Strickert sent information about his club, Decalomania, and he clarifies that he does not run the club. Orders are sent from Box 126, Lincroft NJ 07738. A sample bulletin is \$1.25.

"Keep up the good work on the column," writes Greg Coniglio. "Keep cramming the info onto the pages. What drives me nuts is people always knocking the volunteers of this club. Always complaints from 'picky' people, but never bother to write the person himself with a suggestion." Buffalo ratings show WJYE is first, followed by WYRK, WKSE, WBLK, WBUF, WGR-FM tied with WMJQ. WBEN AM is way down to No. 9, losing play-by-play sports.

Chris Dunne has gotten skip from Central and northern South American countries on FM; look for it in Southern FM DX and in the QSL column. "I told Mike Dorner about it and was willing to dub a DX cassette for him but no reply yet. . . Still wish I could travel extensively (and safely) to those countries in Central/South America where FMs are still hard to get logs, and rewrite 'Ondas'. Do you have \$50,000? Hi."

Bill Hepburn skipped the last edition, but is ordering the current "FM Atlas." His interest in FM DXing was waning, but "now with IF improvements and my own installation of another RF stage, FM-DX is better than ever! Thus my interest in the new Atlas! I'll cross-reference with my info and keep you up-to-date on any changes I note. Keep up the fantastic FM column—the best around. How anyone can criticize you for the occasional (or frequent) plugs for FMEdia! etc. I'll never know. After all, your efforts are all voluntary!" Bill says Toronto 91.9, the "Molson Indy Network" (CJLX?) is likely to be on every summer in late July, "considering the fact that the Molson Indy is an annual event. Plan to try to DX this ephemeral (or perennial?) station in 1991, if it should reappear. Bill says "the split of Northwest Territories looks like an event for 1997—a lot later than the politicians first expected! I don't understand the long delay." Bill used to live and DX in the Northwest Territories. He should consider writing an article for the club on how to add an RF stage to a

WRRH *88.7 to Reappear?

January, 1991

tuner. I doubt, however, if most tuners can benefit from any more RF stages, as the tuners most of the really experienced FM DXers use are already at or near the state of the art.

Gil Morgan wonders if I still have 150 and 180 kHz filters available, and yes I do. He's in Los Angeles, "the land of 100 locals," and probably not near anyone else who modifies tuners for more selectivity. I have gotten some calls from DXers in the northeast and have referred them to other DXers in that part of the country who have a track record in modifying tuners. John Zeis mentions the move of WXPB Philadelphia from 88.9 to 88.5. "One of my favorite stations, WAMU 88.5 Washington DC, is no longer available in S.E. PA. In a car, switchover occurs about 16 km south of the PA-MD border."

"I haven't abandoned the WTFDA or DXing, just have given up—at least for the time being—sending my DXing journals to the columns," says Scott "Kaimbridge" Good. He is revamping and revising his loggings and entering them into his computer, using km for distances. "I'm not too crazy about some of the other metric measures—e.g., temperatures—but think metric length is much better than the old system. One little irritation regarding km: Why do some pronounce it 'kil-AWM-e-ter' rather than 'KIL-o-meet-er'? . . . Keep up the good work!"

Lenny Goldberg sent much news from his native Oregon, mentioning several stations off the air in Medford, four total, two AM and two FM. "I've given up DXing at my apartment. Instead, I drive up Mount Ashland (9000 feet up). Even great equipment at my apartment can't come near my car radio up that high! Curiously, I haven't logged any DX up there, but it's a thrill to listen to the 'locals' from Modesto, Sacramento, etc. that are in all the news."

And that's all the news of filters and other stuff. Look, below, and see how much new material I culled from the voluminous December VUD, as you scan "See Also."

New FM Station Grants

AL Eau Claire 97.9 3000 h.v.; 100 m, Toole & Co.
CA Big Bear City 93.3 600 h.v.; 561 m
CA Essex KHIW 98.9 7400 h.v.; 327 m
CA Quincy 100.3 3000 h.v.; 151 m
CT Ledyard (Norwich-New London) 106.5 3000 h.v.; 88 m, L. Community Bcstg.
FL Panama City *89.9 100000 h.v.; 32 m, g. P. C. Christian Schools
ID Pocatello K211AD *90.1 (WMBI-FM 90.1 Chicago IL, via satellite)
IN Fort Wayne 92.3 3000 h.v.; 100 m
IN Lagrange 105.5 3000 h.v.; 100 m
IN Ligonier 102.7 3000 h.v.; 100 m
KS Herington 96.3 3000 h.v.; 100 m
MS Kosciusko 103.3 25000 h.v.; 100 m
MO Poplar Bluff 103.5 50000 h.v.; 150 m
NH Lisbon 96.7 790 h.v.; 190 m, Profile Bcstg.
NY Bay Shore 103.1 3000 h.v.; 63 m
NY Center Moriches 96.1 3000 h.v.; 100 m
OH Archbold WBVCY *89.5 3000 h.v.; 55 m, g. Summit Christian College
OK Claremore 94.5 3000 h.v.; 100 m
PA Erie 94.7 910 h.v.; 182 m, Peninsula Bcstg.
PA Slippery Rock *88.1 100 h.v.; 24 m, SR U.
RI Block Island 95.9 3000 h.v.; 45 m
SC Socastee (MyrtleBeach) 99.5 3000 h.v.; 100 m [WLYX?]
TN Memphis *89.3 2750 h.v.; 59 m, Cossitt Library, to share time with
TX Corpus Christi 94.7 3000 h.v.; 91 m [upheld by FCC]
TX Temple 101.7 3000 h.v.; 89 m, Progressive Communications—/
TX Waco 94.5 3000 h.v.; 100 m
VT Hartford 104.3 2000 h.v.; 120 m
VA Bedford 106.9 180 h.v.; 389 m
WV Barrackville (Fairmont) 93.1 3000 h.v.; 76 m
WV Spencer 104.7 3000 h.v.; 100 m
MB Winnipeg 91.1 58000 h.v.; French, Radio Communautaire du Manitoba, Inc. The station expects to receive \$254,000 from the government of Manitoba, Quebec, the city of Winnipeg, businesses and the public.
NB Edmundston 101.1, \$, 2900 h.v.; La Co-operative des Montagnes, French

NORTHERN FM-DX

GREG CONIGLIO
5100 GLENWOOD DRIVE
WILLIAMSVILLE, NEW YORK 14221

For DXers in: Canada WA,OR,ID,MT,WY,ND,SD,NE,MN,IA,IL,WI,MI,IN,OH,PA,NY,CT,RI,MA,NJ,VT,NH,ME

JANUARY 1991

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

DEADLINE: The 1st

A fairly small column this time around, but still some reports of the excellent fall tropes season. There were excellent openings in October, plus some got in on a "Thanksgiving '90 tropes fest". If you got any DX, please let us know. Thanks to all that reported DX and input to this column in 1990. I hope you all keep up the great work in 1991, and I hope to hear from some new reporters too-write and let us know how you are!! You may have noticed that when I must use the Image Writer instead of the laser printer the print quality has been inconsistent. When the printer is light, it is hard to read; fuzzy. When I try and darken the print, it seems to flood out, also hard to read. I am trying to use larger typeface wherever possible as well. Any suggestions are appreciated. The script font (like I used for Nienajadly's report a couple of months back) will not be used as there were some complaints, and I tend to agree it did not come out that well....Happy New Year!

WILLIAM R. HEPBURN - 1211-1547 MISSISSAUGA ULY BLU - MISSISSAUGA ON L5A 3X8 (EST)

Equipment: modified JVC R-X330U w/12th floor balcony dipoles & 10 db amps. Realistic PRO-2004 w/indoor 4-bay UHF for microwave STLs

OCTOBER 1990

13 Tr
1955 **WICB** 91.7 NY Ithaca 180
2147 **WCLV** 95.5 OH Cleveland-Akron 195
(10 db)
2258 **CFBG** 100.9 ON Bracebridge 102
(Muskoka) 'FM-101'

NOVEMBER 1990

22 Tr
2110 **WSOH** 950.125 OH Salem 195
(STL AM-600, 10 db)

NOVEMBER 1990

22 Tr
2115 **WNCD** 944.375/625 OH Austintown 160
(STL FM-106.1 Miles)
2219 **WNWU** 107.3 OH Elyria-Cleveland 200
2232 **WRKQ** 106.9 OH Canton (10 db) 210
23 Tr
0048 **WEGW** 107.5 OH Wheeling (10 db) 235
0055 **WSNY** 94.7 OH Columbus (10 db) 295

Comments: Good tropo on the 22nd/23rd but more time was spent on TU/PSB. WSOH-AM 600 STL @ 195 miles is my new STL record. WNCD was received on two discrete channels (left & right stereo). WHOT-101.1 Youngstown was booming in @ 60 db. When will autumn ever end? .. next spring I hope.

DAVE NIEMAN - 12284 NICE ROAD - AKRON, NEW YORK 14001-9529

EQUIPMENT: Carver TX-11 tuner, Heathkit audio amp, Channel Master 4408 on crankup tower 32' (most times) turned by a Alliance HD-73 rotor, RG-11 coax used.

OCTOBER 1990

14 Tr
1400 **WMHI** 94.7 NY Cape Vencent, ID, g \$ 131
20 Tr
2158 **CKNX** 104.9 ON Meaford, CKNX-FM 102 ID, r \$ 146

NOVEMBER 1990

3 Trs
0941 **CHXL** 103.7 ON Brockville, XL-103.7, r \$ 175
1409 **WKNE** 103.7 NH Keene, call+"103.7 KNE", r \$ 311
20 Tr
0133 **CBOF** 90.7 ON Ottawa, call, c FF (ex. 102.5) 219
21 Tr
1351 **CBO** 91.5 ON Ottawa, c, o/WXXI Roch. (ex. 103.3) 219

Now that CBO & CBOF Ottawa have changed frequency; are the stations on 103.3 & 102.5 the same stations but with new call or new stations and can be added to your log total if relogged? Been listing to 103.7 for tropo scatter from WZPK Berlin, NH. I think I may have heard their slogan: "New England's power station". If it is one that they use; persistence will pay off. Also been listing at 99.1 for WSLQ Roanoke but added WHCM Parkersburg to my log. Got the new "FM ATLAS" yesterday; it looks good Bruce, a lot of new stations added since the last one. Like the cover too.

NOVEMBER 1990 (continued)

22 Tr
2151 **WNCL** 97.9 OH Columbus, call, r \$ o/WXPY Roch. 309
2154 **WSRW** 106.7 OH Hillsboro, call, k \$ 372
2341 **WKRQ** 101.9 OH Cincinnati, call+"Q-102" strict, r \$ 409
23 Tr
0107 **WQTL** 106.3 OH Ottawa, call+"power-106.3" r \$ 321
25 Trs
0207 **WALF** 88.3 OH Cincinnati, ID, reggae \$ 409
0900 **WHCM** 99.1 WV Parkersburg, ID, k \$ 296
30 Trs
0843 **WKNE** 103.7 NH Keene, call, r \$ 311

NORTHERN FM DX

JANUARY 1991

BRUCE HALL - 141 KING GEORGE ROAD - BRANTFORD, ONTARIO N3R 5K7

Equipment JVC JR E201 receiver (modified) Magnum Dynalab 205 signal sleuth, Stereo Probe 9 fed with RG6 at 50 feet AOL. Crown rotor. Distances are in kilometres.

OCTOBER 1990 DX

16 Tr
0800 uID 102.1 thru CFNY news, race car burnout with roaring engine and squealing tires followed by female voices musical ID jingle sounded like WFAX or WPAS. Probe south. Maybe WKXL?
20 Tr
0752 **WTLZ** 107.1 MI Saginaw, r. Power 107, rock concertcd, calls, 1st 107.1 other than Q107 300
21 Trs
0600 **WLTJ** 92.9 PA Pittsburgh, rm, Lite FM 309
0900 **WMYQ** 96.9 PA Braddock, r. Magic 97, Pittsburgh's only all classic R & R radio sta 319
27 Tr
0744 **WJQZ** 93.5 NY Wellsville, Magic 93, calls 198
30 **QWITR**
0608 **CHRW** 94.7 ON London, pr. University of Western Ontario. 3 mx "Mexican Radio", power increase to 3000 watts, 80
0801 **WLIT** 94.7 MD Bethesda, W-line traffic ment Hwy 66, Fairfax, I95, and inner loop 529
31 Trs
0626 **WDED** 94.7 DE Dover, k, 22nd state beam 276
0705 **WBRX** 94.7 PA Patton, thru WNED 94.5 splater, St Marys and Johnstown ments 275
0713 **WMHI** 94.7 NY Cape Vincent, g. NY address Think I've found another open frequency beside 99.1 Greg? (Yep, 94.7 is pretty good-ge) 345

NOVEMBER 1990 DX

1 Tr
0724 **WBEZ** 95.7 OH Shadyside, suspect oldies ex **WBJY**. Axcasser Rocky ment Whesling 365
1914 **WCMF** 96.5 NY Rochester, rp, 96 WCMF "Better dead than disco" mx by Yes 231
2 Tr
0622 **WESA** 96.3 PA Charleroi, sort r. ClassFM 344
3 Trs
1737 **WKYA** 101.9 KY Central City, k, 3 songs by Hot Rice (bluegrass), strong 874
4 Tr
1730 **WCYO** 104.9 OH Gahanna, g, calls, Ohio news heard over WZLE Lorain Ohio 415

(Bruce, your "WLF 91" was actually WCFE 57. CITY 31 was trying to relay CITY 57 but picked up ch 57 WCFE from Pittsburgh instead-ge) Have had a goal of 400 catches this year but with 40 days and 40 new logs to go, looks like a tall order. An E-skip opening or a couple more meteor showers would help immensely. Greg, your column format and type looks super to me (Thank you-ge) The different type separates the reports and gives them an individual look form each other. Please don't feel that one complaint is a majority held belief. Your efforts on the columns are most likely taken for granted. Unfortunately, praise seems to come more difficult than criticism.

Joyce's fees,
73 AB

BILL NIENAJADLY - P.O. BOX 2989 - CLIFTON, NEW JERSEY 07015-2989

Equipment same as last time.

NOVEMBER 28, 1990 Es:

1718 **WQUE** 83.3 LA New Orleans, 1000 miles 3 E-skip openings in the last 30 days!! And two Es openings went to FMI! Finally got in on the 3rd one! This of course was short lived, is this a good sign that E-skip will be better in December? I wish! (I don't know if there is any correlation between fall out of season openings and the quality of the winter season? Anybody know?-ge)

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK FOR WINTER E-SKIP!!



JOHN EBELING - 9209 VINCENT AVE SOUTH - BLOOMINGTON, MINNESOTA 55431

From home in Bloomington, MN (all tropes)
 828 0800 WSCN 100.5 MN Duluth, ex: 100.9
 911 2330 KDFX 102.3 IA Dubuque
 2359 WMBN 96.3 MI Petoskey
 101 0900 KLYJ 104.5 MN Blue Earth, ex 100.9
 11/13 2240 KXBA 92.3 MN Alexandria, ex 92.7
 From cabin at Albem, Minn. (all tropes)
 827 1246 KYWR 93.7 SD Winner
 1253 KKBL 93.7 IA Carroll
 Well, that about covers it. Nothing great on tropes this fall that I found, but did catch up on logging new wchrg frequencies stations. Regards, John Ebeling

KURT RICHARDSON - SYRACUSE, NEW YORK**SEPTEMBER 1990 DX**

3 Tr
 1345 WLEW 102.1 MI Bad Axe, Cruise 102, AC
 4 Tr
 0831 CIMX 88.7 ON Windsor, 88-7 Mix, CHR
 0843 WWWW 106.7 MI Detroit, W4 Country,
 0847 WOKI 100.3 TN Oak Ridge, I-100, CHR
 0847 WNIC 100.3 MI Dearborn, FM100, AC
 0849 WRIF 101.1 MI Detroit, The Rif, r
 0859 WDET 101.9 MI Detroit, NPR
 0901 WVGR 104.1 MI Grand Rapids, cl
 0906 unID 105.9 Central Time, very hot,
 106FM. I think its WLAC Nashville
 0915 WKQI 95.5 MI Detroit, Q-95, (CHR)
 0922 WJLB 97.9 MI Detroit, JLB-FM, blk
 0925 WUWZ 103.5 MI Detroit, g
 0928 WGPR 107.5 MI Detroit, calls, blk
 0932 WITL 100.7 MI Lansing, Whittle 100.k
 0935 WPMK 99.1 MI E.Lansing, Light Rock 99
 0941 WHYT 96.3 MI Detroit, 96.3 FM, CHR
 0942 WJIM 97.5 MI Lansing, EZ 97.5, AC
 0949 WJZZ 105.9 MI Detroit, Jazz 105.9

Kurt also mentions that he recently received WCKR 105.9 Woodbridge, Va. several times on meteor scatter; this confirmed because he was talking to a friend in Washington at the time, who agreed to check his local dial to parallel the bursts!!

FRANK MERRILL - P.O. BOX 669 - MACOMB, ILLINOIS 61455

Equipment: McIntosh MR78, CM Stereo Probe 9 yagi at 45 feet

SEPTEMBER 1990 DX

8 Tr
 0215 KKWK 96.7 MN 235
 0400 WOZZ 93.5 WI, Were 93.5 WOZZ New
 London-Fox Cities-Green Bay 290
 7 Tr
 0448 KKYU 105.9 NE Omaha? 105.9 FM, Omaha's
 new View (Not sure of city)
 0453 KTCZ 97.1 MN 345
 0455 KYHT 106.3 SD, legal ID, The Heat
 First SD class A, or is this a class C 410
 0458 ? 106.3 NE Lincoln, Mix 106, calls?
 0505 KWAY 99.3 IA 160
 0513 KNIO 93.5 IA, KNIO Info Line Promo 202
 0521 KQCL 95.9 MN, Power 96, 5 AMN wx 275
 0529 KMT 105.9 SD Mitchell, local news, calls 420
 0541 KDWB 101.3 MN 345
 0610 KBRX 102.9 NE jingle (Note 1) 440
 0616 KYPH 107.9 NE, local ad AMB4 (Note 2) 340
 0621 KNOD 105.5 IA, MONO, announcements, ID 275
 0625 KAYL 104.9 NE, K105 wx, 2 york ads, this
 in past 0930, raise in power? Over KOSK 405
 0628 KRFS t 103.9 NE, Clay County ad (is ad,
 to Superior, but WNOI is in Clay City) 385
 0629 KNCY 97.7 NE, BLASTING INI, softball ad 270

94 2205 WIKR 99.1 MI Iron River
 97 2000 KABL 105.1 MN Tracy, WAVC off
 98 1900 KRSU 91.3 MN Appleton
 2244 KDCQ 96.7 MN Markato
 2300 KBJJ 107.1 MN Marshall
 99 0024 KEZO 92.3 NE Omaha
 10/27 0003 KTCF 101.7 MN Crosby/Ironton
 11/12 1159 KXBA 92.3 MN Alexandria
 1205 KYPH 98.7 ND Bismarck

0951 WDFX 99.5 MI Detroit, 99.5 the Fox, CHR
 0954 CKMR 98.9 ON Windsor, More 94, oldies
 0959 WKAR 90.5 MI East Lansing
 1001 WJOI 97.1 MI Detroit (Kurt, note calls-gc)
 1005 WVIC 94.9 MI E. Lansing, 95 FM, CHR
 1029 WUGN 99.7 MI Midland, g
 1044 WRMX 96.3 TN Murfreesboro, Oldies 96.3
 1124 WOKI 100.3 TN Oak Ridge, I-100, also
 in at 1202, 2146, and 2212
 1159 WSHW 98.7 IN Frankfort, Shine 99, AC
 also in at 1249

12 Tr

0835 WBUF 92.9 NY Buffalo, FM93, AC
 0836 WMIQ 102.5 NY Buffalo, Majic 102, CHR
 0850 CKMR 93.9 ON Windsor, More 94, gold

NOVEMBER 1990 DX

4 MS
 1801 WPCJ 93.7 OH Mansfield, in car, no tape
 9 MS
 0048 KEZQ 100.3 AR Jacksonville, ac

12 MS
 1307 WCTS 100.3 MN Minneapolis, g
 WCKR 105.9 Woodbridge, Va. several times on

0632 KNZA 103.9 KS, promo for Western Illinois U
 calls, WIU is in Macomb!! Strange. 270
 0705 KGBD 105.3 NE, wx for KGBD list area 425
 0726 KKCA 100.5 MO, news and weather, we
 keep you informed, KKCA, move from 97.7
 still sounds like 3kw, what's the point? 130
 0740 KELR 105.5 IA, KNOD gone, rare by itself 180
 0747 KOAK 95.3 IA, Charley Pride c & w (Note 3) 250
 0802 KEZG 107.3 NE Lincoln, annihilatin KGRS! 310
 0807 KZMC 105.3 NE Huskers FM promo, calls
 Z-105, previously E-skip 535
 0808 KNDY 103.1 KS, sure nice to have 103.1
 clear now (WJEG now on 102.7) 300
 0917 KDSN 107.1 IA, in and out of KCCQ-IA 290
 1031 KNOD 105.5 IA, again, over 2 nearer Iowas 275

10 Tr
 0531 KLOS 95.1 MO, KS95, MO wx, local ad 180
 19 Tr
 1903 KIDA 92.9 IA, legal ID, jingle 275
 1908 KLIIR 101.1 NE 370
 1903 KZEN 100.3 NE 380
 2015 KGRD 105.3 NE 380
 2203 WRNQ 100.9 OH, singoff, pleasant surprise 340
 2205 WWWW 106.7 MI 410
 2130 KMM 105.5 IA, Kiss FM, Southern IA wx

FRANK MERRILL'S REPORT continued.....

distorted and very crummy audio, off around 0135
 (Note #4) 4

OCTOBER 1990 DX

17 GW
 0102 WILX 98.3 IL Macomb, PIRATE, hard rock, 23598 KEBD 97.7 MO Waynesville, legal ID 180
 NOTE #1: Normally, from about 101.9 to 106.5, the top end of the dial is virtually useless with the antenna pointed at local WJEG 102.7 (25 kw, 1.33 miles NW of here) Apparently, the strength of the signals in this opening caused the MR78 to "back off" its AGC, decreasing the WJEG overload to near zero. KBRX was a special treat, as they are in the same direction as WJEG. The 105.3's (heard by dropping the antenna to due-west to eliminate what overload there was) were also a treat, because the WKAL-100.1 & WJEG mixing product makes this my worst overload frequency.
 NOTE #2: Note the rarity here, an FM simulcasting an AM! Years ago this was the rule, but nowadays it is usually the AM that simulcasts the FM.
 NOTE #3: A real fluke! KOKX-IA (40) was sitting there with open carrier. I was able to call and determine that KOKAK had just played the song I'd just heard. Not likely to hear this again unless KOKX moves to 96.3.
 NOTE #4: What is club policy, or normal individual choice, on recognizing "pirate" stations? This is my first "pirate" heard from Macomb. WTRA 107.1 Springfield is one of my most wanted stations, particularly because of my current state of socio-political activism. WTRA is a black-run station which, I understand, has done a phenomenal job of serving minorities in the Illinois capital. (Frank, I believe that club policy allows logging pirates as an official station. Here just to the northeast of Buffalo we recently had a pirate on 90.5 that I did not count, only because all it ever did was play albums, no announcing or anything. I viewed that as just someone doing it for their own enjoyment. However had I counted them I doubt I would have received many complaints. On the other hand, a pirate such as WTRA, with such a visible influence and benefit to the community could be considered a "de facto" station; I would definitely say count it the WILX too since they were using calls-gc)

DANIEL E. GETTING - 22 CARRIAGE LANE - ERTON, PENNSYLVANIA 16841

Equipment: Harmon Kardin Citation 23, Yamaha T-70, pair of rascally rabbit ears.
NOVEMBER 1990 DX
 20 MS
 0659 WMAU 88.9 MS Buds, multiple IDs
 21 Tr
 0830 WVEP 88.9 WV Martinsburg, multiple ID, wx
 0901 WMRA 90.7 WV Martinsburg, ID, wx, c
 22 Tr
 1020 CFMX t 103.1 ON Cobourg, c
 1039 WQNY 103.1 NY Newburgh, AC, Sunny 103

Happy New Year! My FM DX interests have abounded thanks to a new tuner. Wall to Wall Sound and Video (an area electronic store) recently decided it wanted to get out of the electronics business and stick to selling CDs, tapes and records. Consequently they had an amazing clearance sale on all their stereo equipment. I stopped in and got a brand new Harmon Kardin Citation 23 tuner for a measly 140 dollars. Suggested retail on this tuner is 350 dollars! The salesman said "Make me an offer on the tuner." I only said 140 dollars as a joke really and was amazed to find him filling out the final paper work without another word about price. This tuner is incredible! What a DX machine! I've never seen better rejection of adjacent channel on any non-modified tuner ever. Tests show 46db Adjacent channel rejection. What else is nice about this tuner is that even though it tunes in 100 khz steps digitally, it has a fine tuning knob which can tune + or - 25 khz from the center frequency tuned. This further reduces the risk of any adjacent channel interference. At my location, all the FM channels are now capable of adjacent channel int. free reception. I've received some new stations, mainly due to the new tuner and not the conditions!
 73's Dan O.

GREG CONIGLIO - 5100 GLENWOOD DRIVE - WILLIAMSVILLE, NEW YORK 14221

Equipment: see previous VUDs

NOVEMBER 1990 DX

20 MS
 1328 CKHJ 93.1 NB Frederickton, "country
 KHJ" jingle right over WNTQ
 21 Tr
 1145 CKK 106.5 ON Owen Sound, oWYRK 185
 1150 CBON 104.8 ON Gogama, FF Mono 370
 1230 WAVT 101.9 PA Pottsville, strong 240
 1251 WRQ 94.3 NY Rochester, modern rock,
 calls, moved here from 93.3, power?? 59
 1304 CBOE 90.7 ON Otawa, testing as new stn
 French ID, MONO 224
 1405 CBO 91.5 ON Otawa, testing as new stn
 English ID, MONO, blasting in over
 WXXI Rochester. Are these ex-AMers? 224

NOVEMBER 22 Tr (Thanksgiving 90)

22 Tr 2145 WKRQ 101.9 ON Cincinnati, Q-102, CHR 403
 23 Tr
 0000 WWIN 88.3 IN Evansville, legal ID, local wx 560
 0040 WPF 105.9 OH Middletown, QSL rec'd 375
 105.9 Dayton's Country Rebel 375
 0200 WFPK 81.9 KY Louisville, legal ID 435
 0200 WYXU 91.7 OH Cincinnati, strong signal 403
 0204 WRQN 93.5 OH Bowling Green, 93Q Toledo
 evidently CBCL was off the air 250
 0207 WQUC 90.9 OH Cincinnati, calls heard 403
 0224 WERN 102.7 OH Cincinnati, AOR of WCPZ 403
 0810 WOYK 98.7 WV Wheeling, k8, 99 Country 225
 1003 WHCM 99.1 WV Parkersburg, k8, Power
 Country 99, since heard in on scatter 268
 HAPPY NEW YEAR!

SOUTHERN FM DX

January 1991 HAPPY NEW DX YEAR!

Danny Buntin
1312 N Skyline
Stillwater, OK 74075

DEADLINE: 14th

Doug Allen, w2crs, P. O. Box 5646, Woodland Park, CO 80866

Equip.: Pioneer TX 9800(IF modified) & stacked Stereo Probe 9s at 25'.
(Stations under 400 miles not reported unless new or remarkable!)

11/1 ms
0821 KXKR 97.5 MN Rochester, ad 728

11/9 ms
0805 K--- 97.5 TX Olney, 15 sec. burst,
Wichita Falls wx, No cl in my Atlas, but
must be this one!

0941 KABL 98.1 CA San Francisco, "a cable
traffic report"

11/17 tr s
0940 KNID 96.9 OK Enid, old reliable in
as usual! 465

10/20 (from car on I-70 on Toyota
digital radio + car whip)

1200+ KYSG 106.9 KS Larned, NOT ON AIR,
"pure gold KQDF" strong

1200+ KGZE 98.7 KS Rozel, NOT on air
1200+KWNL 94.1! KS Downs NOT on air
1200+KFBU 93.9 NE McCook, NOT on air,
KICK still 95.9

1200+ KSPZ 92.9 CO C. Springs, last C. S.
station to hear 300 mi.

1300+KMOD 97.5 OK Tulsa from west of
Quinter, ID 310

1300+KFKF 94.1 KS KC, in before Topeka's
88.1 + 98.1 300

10/26 (from car on I-70

0800+KMOD 97.5 OK Tulsa in/out from east of KC to Salina.

1145 KSPZ 92.9 CO Col. Springs, east of Russell 320

1150 KMOD 97.5 OK Tulsa, in/out all the way from KC

1211 KFKF 94.1 KS KC from Quinter 300

1211 KOSU 91.7 OK Stillwater, from Colyer 260

11/28 ms

1300 KNEY 95.5 NV Reno, ID

11/29 tr s

0758 KZKX 96.9 NE Seward 425

1747 KNID 96.9 Enid 465

11/30 ms

0750 WMTX 94.1 IL Mount Vernon, ID

0846 KABL 98.1 CA San Francisco, ID

1000 KABL 98.1 CA San Francisco, ID

1300 KABL 98.1 CA San Francisco, ID

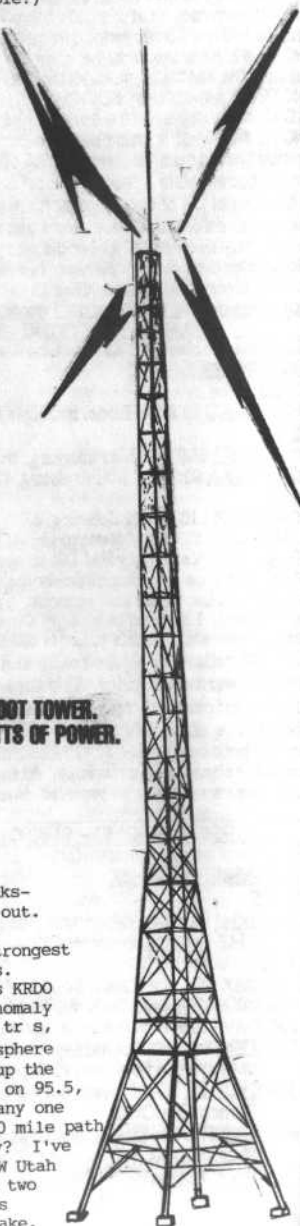
1300 KVIPT 98.1 CA Reading, g

Besides the 3 IDs, I had several dozen bursts from KABL without IDs and several from KVIPT in the several hours I monitored 98.1 today. Drove to Cincinnati and back for Thanksgiving; nice visit with Topeka DXer Todd Brandenburg on way out. No tropo this month, but I'll present two anomalies! First, when traveling I-70 from/to Colorado Springs 92.9 was the strongest station from 150 miles out, fading up as far out as 320 miles. However, approaching Colorado Springs at less than 150 miles KRDO 95.1 and KFKF 96.5 were significantly stronger! Second anomaly concerns tropo scatter. The maximum theoretical range for tr s, about 500 miles, is limited by the highest part of the atmosphere useful for scattering about 6 miles in altitude. From six up the radio horizon is about 250 miles. I've been listening west on 95.5, 98.1, etc., for tr s from elusive Utah, without luck. Can any one explain why there appears to be very little tr s over the 400 mile path west when I'm receiving 400+ mile tr s to the east regularly? I've confirmed that KREC is definitely on and loud throughout SW Utah from high country ski area Brian Head where I spend part of two summers back in the 70's doing high altitude training. It's about 420 miles to Brian Head and under 400 miles to Salt Lake.

cont....

WHO'S ABOUT TO GET ON NEW TOWER?
SEE NEXT PAGE FOR DETAILS!

NEW 1,000 FOOT TOWER.
100,000 WATTS OF POWER.



SOUTHERN FM DX

JANUARY 1990

TOWER MOVE NEWS: Classical music nuts on the fringes will rejoice. KOSU 91.7 of Stillwater, OK after much delay is finally about ready to make the move to its new 1030' tower, perhaps as soon as this month. Tower located 7 miles west of downtown. KOSU boasts its audience will increase 5 times. They are probably not counting much of their Tulsa and Oklahoma City audiences off of the old 440' tower, currently. KOSU will have a tower mate, KSPI there since last spring. While boasting 50 kw(FM Atlas says 16 kw, though) KSPI penetrates the Oklahoma City tower farm about 45 miles away, listenably well. The station's drop to 93.7 from 93.9 apparently resulted in landing on a channel less disturbed by overloading. Good luck in tuning in these stations in '91, if you haven't already!

A PROPAGATION MYSTERY

ALLEN CONT...Surely, there's occasional turbulence, temp. and moisture discontinuities at the mid point between Utah transmitter sites and here(the midpoint is approximately over the Utah-Colorado border). Perhaps my reception of Enid and other stations at that distance that I attribute to tr s is in fact marginal tr taking place in the lower troposphere? Meteor scatter over the 400 miles is also theoretically possible, but it's very rare to receive more than pings from such a short distance(I have only once had identifiable ms from 465 mile 96.9 Enid, for example, though I monitor that freq. more than any other (and that's my shortest ms)based on my 27 years of operating ms on two meters. I'll continue to investigate this and would appreciate comments of those who have tr s experience. 73.

Matt Sittel, P. O. Box 21421, Raleigh, NC 27607

Equipment: Yamaha TX-900 U with modified filters, Archer 6-bay FM antenna, rabbit ears, Archer FM signal amplifier

11/6 tr

0823 WHTK 99.7 SC Port Royal, calls 259

11/7 tr

0822 WCRJ 107.3 FL Jacksonville, k, 413

briefly in \$

0829 WFUV 104.5 FL Atlantic Beach, 410

"Rock 105"

November was very disappointing for FM DX, as I only noted decent tropo on 4 days. The FL duct was nice, although it lasted only about 15 minutes. Perhaps there will be some winter FM skip to make up for this!? 73's.

Gus Mancuso, 5615 Inwood St., Hyatt, MD 20785

9/30 tr

0814 WRFY 102.5 PA Reading Another unusually directional situation(see 9/90 VUD). Norfolk and Philly strong, but reception weak toward Ocean City, permitting a null on WOLC.

From Cordova, MD (halfway from DC to Ocean City, MD)

11/22 (Thanksgiving)

WXPN 88.5 PA Phila(ex 88.9)

WHRO 90.3 VA Norfolk(ex 89.5)

11/22

WHYY 90.9 PA Phila (nulled WETA)

WORA 94.3 VA Warrenton

WVOC 94.3 NJ Avalon (triple #4)

WTVR 98.1 VA Richmond

WSEB 98.9 MD Salisbury(new station)

WVVS 99.3 VA Accomac (new station)

WZZL 100.7 NJ Wildewood(tough null on WGRX)

WENJ 105.5 NJ Cape May (over WDVH)

WKDN 106.9 NJ Camden (Finally made touch

by stronger WARK and WAFX, is "triple" #5)

Now a feminine look at FM DXing from potential new member Michelle Shute KC4UAY of 9766 Pickwood Dr., Pensacola, FL 32514: I wanted to report a great piece of FM DX I received on 28 Nov. I drove home from work and turned on my Panasonic RF-2600 AM/FM/SW rx. On 88.9 I heard reggae music. I knew it wasn't a local station. Then I heard the DJ speak with a Caribbean accent. I still didn't think I really had anything special. Then the DJ says "Belize City" and "Chateau Caribbean." The station I heard was on 88.9 "Friends FM" from Ladyville, Belize on 28 Nov. at 4:55 pm. Wow! I had never heard Central America on FM before, but I had seen loggings of FM DX from there before in the VUD. All I had was a whip antenna--nothing special I taped it as proof. Then I called the DJ at the station "Friends FM" to tell him I had heard him. Of course he was extremely surprised and announced my name over the air as well as telling his audience that I could hear him "all the way in FL". I wonder if the audience believed me. Also on 88.9 I heard Spanish, but couldn't figure out where it was coming from as Belize was too strong. By the way "Friends FM" was running 10 kw! The E-skip was excellent this summer. On FM I heard WY, IA, Mexico, SD, MN. In writing the FM stations, many did not respond + I included return postage. That gets darned expensive! One DJ I talked to in MD was rude to me. He did not believe I could hear him even when I told him what I heard. Others were super nice!

EASTERN TV-DX

Bill Nienajadly
PO Box 2999
Clifton NJ 07015-2999
201-478-3044 no collect calls

January 1991 HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! CUT-OFF 3 Months from deadline Deadline 2/5/91

E-SKIP ON OCT. 31 & NOV. 28!!! A big column this month with 14 reporters! Mucho tropo too!!!
Highlites: Yingling, Nice coastal tropo at Kitty Hawk NC/ Timmerman in IN. gets 657 mi to VT!
COMBS saw Meteor Scatter on Ch 19 (a rare happening!) /Coniglio 505 mi to IL/ Fela 477 mi to NC
Rosenberg saw rare path 563 mi trop again! / Hepburn, 470 mi to KY/ Falconer 454 mi to IL.
Wheeler "more skip the last of Oct & in Nov than I did in Aug & Sept" / Clifton DXer see's NH!!!
E-skip on 10/31 & 11/28 surprised some DX-ers, it does happen once in a while 'off season'.
Here in NJ it reached 93.3 for a breif time on 11/28. Lets hope for more E-skip!

Jeff Falconer box 63 Clinton ONT N0M IL0

Equipment: Icom R70000, 25 el log periodic at 25', rotor

August 1990	2 Tr 0201 WHA 21 WI 406	3 Tr 1500 WAND 17 IL 454
	0206 WSJV 28 IN 276	1621 WFWA 39 IN 256
29 Tr 2329 WNDU 16 IN 277	0210 WDJT 58 WI 324	October 1990
2230 WSBT 22 IN 277	0215 WVTU 18 WI 324	13 Tr 1600 WOSU 34 OH 249
2334 WLLA 64 NI 213	0251 UNID 19+ TBN	31 ES 2125 WUF to ch 5
2337 WHME 46 IN 275	0301 WCGV 24 WI 324	
September 1990	0313 CBCE 16 ON 163	2157 KFDX 3 TX 1133
1 Tr 0556 WITE 28 OH 249		2158 WBRZ 2 LA 1060

Thats about it from here, more if/when it happens, 73, Jeff.

Frank Wheeler 6589 Wattsburg Rd Erie P.A. 16509

I was surprised to receive skip on Oct 31 (Halloween). I received the following:

October 1990

31 ES 2050 KSNC 2 KS 1009 31 ES 2159 WTVJ 4 FL 1110 31 ES 2200 KFDX 3 TX 1144

I also had others on Ch. 2 & 4 but no identified. I was really surprised to receive skip at this time of the year, although I have received skip in Nov, Dec and Jan. but never on Halloween.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.

Fred Nordquist 7945 Boxford Road Clay NY 13041 (ELT)

Equipment: Receiver-Panasonic CT-1110B & GE ASF 2223AD, Antenna- 4 bay bowtie @ 40' AGL, Preamp-Winegard AC-4990

New stations to log since last report (11/88!) (111-BN) thru 1989: *W18AL-18 NY, CICA-44-ON, WOOD-55-NY, WNEQ-23-NY
CICA-42-ON, CFOS-49-PQ, WETX-33-VT, CIVM-17-PQ, *MSNR-43-NY, *G354Q-35-NY.

*- Jukebox Network (These pest are messing up Ch 11/13/15/18/35/43/53/54)

May 1990	JULY 1990	September 1990
19 GW 1737 *W13AL NY 005	7 Tr 0015 *W15AL NY 73	7 Tr 0800 CBLN 45 ON
1737 *W11BP NY 005	0017 *W40AG NY 73	October 1990
JUNE 1990	10 Tr 0032 *W53AM NY Utica	15 Tr 0015 WQEX 16 PA 272
17 Tr 0030 W38AW NY 73	11 Tr 0930 WMHX 45 NY	16 Tr 0005 W59BV NY 73
30 GW 1805 *W54AL NY 15	(Fred, it is in Schenectady-BN)	29 Tr 2240 WUPW 36 ON 391

ES was noted on: May, 26/27/28/29/30/31...June, 1/2/3/9/10/14/19/20/26....July, 3/6/7/8/17/18.

Totals up to 331. I need Ch. 24 & 68 traps to eliminate overload from WCNY & WSYT. 73 Fred.
(Fred, WCNY gives me no overload here, in fact I barely see them much...HI!. Tell Bill K. I said HI-BN)

Bob Seybold 10567 Bennet Rd. Dunkirk NY

November 1990

21-Trops-good signals to north (Canada) and east, some to west but not much. Strong signals from Ontario U's-15,18,19, 20,22,24,27,29,30,32 (Kingston), 34,35 (Montreal),38,40,42,44,45,51,53 (2),55 (2), 56,59,61. Also in good-Water-town U's, Syracuse, Utica, Elmira, Binghamton, Scranton, also Pittsburgh and WTA-15 Parkersburg.

22-Trops-major opening noted about 2030 when I returned home. Super signals from all South Bend, Elkhart U's, Ft Wayne U's, Chicago 26,32,38,44 & 60: Rockford 39, Michigan U's strong: 14,19,20,23,28,31,35,38,41 & 47. Kalamazoo 52 also in- Milwaukee 58 also. (Bob's report continues on the next page-BN)

Eastern TV DX

JANUARY 1991

Bob Seybold continued

22 Signals shifted slightly later with almost entire state of Ohio in-super signals on 14,16,17,18,19,20,22,23,24,26, 27 (2),28, 29 (Akron LPTV over Buffalo 29-new),30,34,35, (1ima) over Erie 35: 36,41 (LPTV in Sandusky): 42,44 (Lima) and Cambridge both strong at times: 45 (Dayton) very strong: 47 (Mansfield LPTV): WDET 48, WSOAB Mansfield: Newark 51, WGGN 52, Chicottle 53, Bucyrus 54 (LPTV), 59 Ashland LPTV: 64 Cincinatti strong (rare), WQAC 67 strongest ever seen it. Also Indiana U's- Bloomington 42,63 excellent: Richmond 43: Indianapolis 20,40,59 all strong: WFIE 14 rare, Lafayette 18, Kokomo 29, Marlon 23: Muncie 32 (LPTV), Indianapolis 47 (LPTV): Bloomington 111 43 breifly-: Fox 29 Tennessee: Kentucky U's 15,32,68: Lexington 36, 52 (Owenton), 54 (Covington)- Moorehead 38: also Terre Haute 38:WTA-15

23 (Bob I assume when you say 'next AM', you mean the 23rd-BN)
Next AM- Many of the above in plus:...Kentucky U's- Lexington 18,27,46 (strong) Louisville 21: Portsmouth 21 (LPTV) -new, WKY 56 strong: WKZT 23: also 34,53. KY: Hazard 57, Pikesville 22, Somerset 29, Nashville 30 very strong- Tennessee 22 WDSI-61- Tenn. 43, Mystery 22-'TBN' to south: LPTV's (ohio) on 63,65,69,58 all Ohio educational translators: also Jackson 16- Tenn: also UNIDs on 60 (ohio LPTV): 50 to the south, 62 to South, 68 LPTV to the South, also Kentucky U on 51, -opening ended about 1030 EST.

Many of the Kentucky and Tennessee U's as strong as I ever seen them, covering channels normally covered by others.

73's Bob

Tom J. Yingling Jr. KA3TCC 221 Pinewood Road Baltimore MD 21222-2345

TV DX equipment used:

At home: Sony Trinitron KV-1214 12" color, Teknika 6510, Winegard P.A. UHF preamp on Channel Master 6 foot dish up 50 feet, Channel Master-Quam 1114 WF only antenna

At Kitty: Sony Trinitron KV-9200 used with Teknika 6510-T, Casio TV-1000 2.5" color led, Sony Watchman FD-10A Hawk, NC: Sony Watchman GV-9 4" color L.E.D. screen with 8 mm vcr, Channel Master 3 foot corner reflector on vacation: tripod in Hotel, Winegard P.A.-8275, Winegard AC-4990, Blonder Tongue CMA-ub

At Home:

September 1990	5 ES 2245 KTVY 4 OK	11 Tr 0930 W73AS VA
	6 ES 1830 WCIX 6 FL	Oak Grove VA
5 ES 2130 WEDU 3 FL	1830 WEAR 3 FL	0945 W48AW DC
2330 KMOS 6 MO	1830 WEDU 3 FL	0946 WGGT 48 NC-s/f
2335 KMOV 4 MO	11 TR 0800 WUNP 36 NC	2030 WJCB 49 VA
1830 WCIX 6 FL	0830 W42AJ DC	2200 WYBE 35 PA
2200 C 6 3 CUBA	0831 W35AB42 PA	Hvy cci to WRLH-35-VA
Ch 6 Net News	0911 W34AX NC	
2245 KOTV 6 OK	Henderson NC	

All (below) logged at Kitty Hawk, NC

September 1990

6 Tr 0014 W51BH VA	6 TR 1630 WETA 26 DC	6 Tr 2125 WNYC 31 NY
0014 WYED 17 NC	1635 WJKA 26 NC	2126 WNYC 56 VA
0020 WPDE 15 SC	1700 WTVK 33 VA	2128 WGBS 57 PA
0025 WNFT 47 FL	1800 WFTY 50 DC	2130 WACH 57 SC
0026 WMDT 47 MD	1900 WUNP 36 NC	2134 WJJB 58 NJ
0030 WJKS 17 FL	1905 WFCF 38 VA	2141 WLXI 61 NC
0040 WGGT 48 NC	1910 WUNJ 39 NC	2146 WFCT 62 NC
0100 WHSW 24 MD	1915 WJMG 40 NJ	2148 WHSP 65 NJ
0100 WHRO 15 VA	1920 WTVI 42 NC	2149 WTKK 66 VA
0100 WCCB 18 NC	1925 WGSE 43 SC	2150 WHSI 67 NY
0100 WTAT 24 SC	1930 WHMC 23 SC	2154 WDCA 20 DC
0105 WJCB 49 VA	1940 WBFF 45 MD	2200 WHSE 68(NY)
0120 WCNC 36 NC	1941 WNRW 45 NC	2200 WLIW 21 NY
0125 WAMS 30 FL	2000 WFLD 22 NC	2215 WLIG 55 NY
0200 WOLO 25 SC	2005 WJZY 26 NC	2230 WJCL 22 GA
0214 WACH 57 SC	2015 WPTF 28 NC	2300 WJNT 52 NJ
1100 WUNN 19 NC	2015 WNS3 23 NJ	2300 W2OAL NC
1330 WNGT 27 VA	2015 WVR 29 VA	Wilmington-TBN
1400 WRLH 35 VA	2030 WCPB 28 MD	2310 WNUV 54 MD
1600 WUNK 25 NC	2100 WMP 22 MD	2315 WHMM 32 DC

Comments: We changed pre-amps to see which one was better. I think the CMA-ub was the best. The lead in was only 20 ft or less. We tried different places in the hotel room for best results. The trip John Combs was up in Duck, NC with Jim Alexander. We didn't have any VHF antennas, but they did. I hope to try to report more often, 73's till later. Tom

Bob Timmerman, 1210 Desoto Ct., Auburn IN 46706 EST year-round

SEPTEMBER 1990

4 Tr 0050 CF10-9 ON 330	4 Tr 0212 CFMT-47t ON 330
CBLFT-25 ON 330	"cable four"
CITY-57 ON 330	0231 CKCO-11 ON 398
0130 WETK-33 VT 657	0330 WHEC-10 NY 402
0149 CICA-12 ON 295	0401 TVQ-51 ON 348

Distances are from John Combs' DX printouts.

The reception of WETK was quite a surprise! They were showing a Jerry Lewis movie (with no commercials, of course). Before signing off, they gave a phone number for comments about Vermont ETV. I received a nice QSL from them in about ten days. I'm still using rabbit ears and a four-bay UHF indoors.

I haven't had a lot of time for DXing because I've been very busy with school. I graduate in December 1990 with a B.S. in electrical engineering from Purdue U. at Fort Wayne.

Auburn's LPTV, W07CL, is on the air 24 hours a day. They have a zero offset and are affiliated with Channel America.

John F. Combs N4SFS, P.O. Box 7581, Tallahassee FL 32314

(904) 878-6317

NOVEMBER 1990

(5 Tr 0001+) WMAW-14 MS (308), WMAH-19 MS (279), WXXV-25 MS (286), WTZH-24 MS (292), WLBM-30 MS (292) [Tr 2342-0039] Above stns plus WLTX-19 SC (325), WOLO-25 SC (314), WRLK-35 SC (319), WACH-57 SC (313), WAGT-26 GA (SC) (250), WCCB-18 NC (391), WCNC-36 NC (391) 16 Tr 0648-0720] WFLA-33 LA (417) weak, Biloxi U's, W61BL Tampa FL (Univision)(202) [2025-2200] KTLT-18 LA (520), KLPB-24 LA (484), KVHP-29 LA (533), WGNO-26 LA (340), WNOL-38 LA (340), WFTX-36 FL (291), Biloxi U's and many unIDs (Carlton had the best stuff: lots of TX stns and from 2130-2200 Huntsville AL U's snow-free. I hate him...) 17 Tr 0615-0700 Central and South FL great, including WWSB-40 FL (228) before local a/on, WSPF-30 FL (291), WINK-11 FL (292), WEVU-26 FL (318), WTVX-34 FL (326), W68-- Tampa FL (VJN) [2030-2100] Tampa U's excellent including W61BL, W35AJ (Channel America)(207); also Ft. Myers U's including W24AA Ft. Myers FL (298) in through a mess of CCI probably caused by two closer LPTVs in Tampa and Sarasota (11 Tr 0115) Ft. Myers U's (0803-0930) Mobile/Biloxi/Hattiesburg excellent, WGNO-26 LA, WNOL-38 LA and three new LPTVs: W46AV Pascagoula MS (TBN)(254), W48-- Destin FL (tourist channel), and W63-- Pensacola FL (TBN)(173)...after all had f/out I was watching a very weak unID-19 in all by itself (w/Tennessee Texaco cartoons) when, at 0916, I saw what appeared to be the first meteor burst even seen by me on UHF!!! A 2-second burst of CCI (video) and audio (dialogue) covered this weak unID! That must've been one helluva meteor! [12 Tr 0720] WGNO-26, WNOL-38 [2250] Ft. Myers U's [13 Tr 0645-0835] Biloxi 19/25 New Orleans 26/38, WHLT-22, W46AV, W63-- WAPT-16 plus three New Orleans newies: WVUE-8, WYES-12, WLAE-32 (341) [17 Tr 0750-0815] Among others WCPT-33 AL (267) and an unID-22 with TBN--I think this is Columbus GA (one of these days I'll drive up there to verify...)

Not too bad for balcony antennas. The configuration of the antenna setup results in a narrow area (about 45 degrees) always yielding the best signals, no matter what direction they come from. VHF here is beset by massive CATV CCI, and a signal has to be very strong override it. No super-Gulf tropo like that which greeted my first two nights here in October, but a couple of good days to LA and some interesting LPTVs, as well as the freak ch. 19 Ms burst, kept my interest up to a reasonable level. After about a month of active DXing here, my log is up to 125 stations, and 15 of these are LPTVs. So I believe I'll have a shot at some decent DX at this QTH for a few years until I can afford to buy a place. Then it'll be "TOWER TIME"!!! (Well, I can dream, can't I???)

Greg Coniglio 5100 Glenwood Drive Williamsville NY 14221

Equipment: Emerson ECR 157 TV, Teknika TVC 22 tuner, OM rotor, VHF Jerrald 10 element, UHF: 4 bay & 20 db OM amp

October 1990

29 Tr 2230 Youngstown U's + WFVA 39 Ft Wayne	21 Tr 1035 Pitt. excellent 1600(WWTI) 50 NY 150	23 Tr 0301 WBNS 10 OH 0919 CIVO 30 PQ 230 0930 WKLE 46 KY 440 WKMR 38 KY 396
30 Tr 0700 WPMT 43 PA 235	22 Tr 2100 WCET 48 OH 2300 WSPJ 51 OH-ns/f 2347 WITB 63 IN	above 2 KEY network 0940 WTAP 15 WV-290 0941 WPXI 11 PA-187
31 ES ---- MUF ch 6 2100 KSNW 3 KS 1064	23 Tr 0000 WOSU 34 OH-s/f WITE 28 OH-s/f 0104 WICD 15 IL 505 0137 WKRC 12 OH 405	way over CHCH 1000 WQED 13 PA snow free WPTT-22 also snow - free (Note#1)
NOVEMBER 1990		
1 Tr 2100 Detroit, Toledo, SW Ont		
19 Tr 0800 Youngstown U's		
21 Tr 1020 WBRE 28 PA 192-rare 22, 38, 44, also in 1030 W63AU PA 187 (Pittsburgh HSN)	0235 CBOT 19 ON Barrie's Bay CBC	
1035 13, 16(t), 22, 40, 53,		

Note #1: Many more stations seen during "Thanksgiving '90 opening". In addition to those listed, at times Detroit, Tol-
-edo, NE Ohio (Akron, Cleveland, Youngstown) and SW Ontario were all completely local like. After WNEQ-23 went off, WAKC-
-23 was being picked up snowfree on the cable! (Wow!-BN) VHF channels looked like skip the whole night, with seemingly
3+ stations on each channel; the signal strengths in this opening were amazing. It was going strong until 10:30 AM
Friday when it just died out. I am looking forward to what other DX-ers saw during this opening. I would like to wish
everybody a happy 1991! 73 Greg

Paul Mount Box 126 Lincroft NJ 07738

November 1990

27 Tr 1824 WSBK 38 MA	27 Tr 1825 WTWS CT	27 Tr 1830 WTXH 20 CT 1900 WHAI 43 CT -paid 1/2 hr show. (Paul, they run a very limit- -ed schedule often off by 1800 or so-BN)
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These were seen while FM dxing mostly CT/MA: Rich Shaftan had a fine Boston opening at this time.

Equipment: Sanyo 21C100 13" color, Teknika TVC-22 tuner, Archer UHF -antenna hanging in window.

Frank Wheeler 6589 Wattsburg Road Erie PA 16509 Report #2

November 1990

28 ES 1430 WEDU 3 FL 891	28 ES 1500 WPBT 2 FL 1110	28 ES 1700 WESH 2 FL 908
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I have received more skip the last of Oct. and in Nov. than I did in Aug & Sept.

326 rec, 220 Veries Good DX'ing, Have a good Christmas, Frank Wheeler

Jeff Wolf 1131 Univerity Blvd W. Apt 701 Silver Spring MD 20902

October 1990

30 Tr 0730 UNID 2z	1 Tr 0632 WUNP 36 NC 195	3 Tr 0632 WUNP 36 NC 195
31 ES 2208 MUF 4	0648 WLVT 39 PA 136	0633 WUNJ 39 NC t
2210 NBC 3	ID 3/4 cb	4 Tr 0011 W44AA WV 60
ABC 2+	0700 W34AX NC 202	0119 WJKA 26 NC 344
2240 MUF 3	0740 WLVT 39 PA cci	0158 above signed-off
2258 MUF 2	WTXF 29 PA+VA 29	0541 WRDG 16 NC 251
	3 Tr 0128 WPTF 28 NC 251	WPTF 28 NC 251
	0301 WGNT 27 VA-s/off	WKFT 40 NC 265
	0303 W34AX NC 202	
	0305 WRLH 35 VA 111-s/f	7 Tr 1900 WPTD 16 OH t-cci
	WKFT 40 NC 265	15 Tr 0110 WKBN 27 OH t
	0306 WYED 17 NC 248	0736+WNYC 31 NY 19
	0608 WRDG 16 NC 251	NYC 41,47cc1 WLIG-t
	0699 WYED, WPTF, W34AX	also WLIW-21 t
		16 Tr 0023 CCI 2

November 1990

1 Tr 0107 W41AC VA 114	0532 W44AA WV 60
0533 WPTF 28 NC 251	0607 WKBN 27 OH t
0625 WKFT 40 NC 265	0628 WYED 17 NC 248

William R. Hepburn 1211-1547 Mississauga Uly Mississauga ON L5A 3X8 (EST)

Equipment: JUC HR-D630U UCR w/12th floor balcony UHF dipoles / indoor 4-bay UHF

October 1990

22 TR 1958 WPTO 14 OH 385	23 TR 0013 WCVN 54 KY 410
31 ES 2310 MUF 3	2002 LouKy 15, 32 485
	2132 W50BE 50 OH 240
	0549 WTRF 7(OH) 235

November 1990

1 TR 2240 W59BU 59 NY 104	Mansfield (ind)	Wheeling W0
Rochester	2157 unid 63 (HSC)	(tp u/WKBw)
(xltr WNYB-48)	2200 W59BP 59 OH 225	0552 W60AC 60 NY 98
21 TR 2350 WWTI 50 NY 180	Ashland (CHA)	Findley Lake
(ex-WFYF, no SAP)	2244 WKON 52 KY 440	(xltr WNEB-17)
22 TR 1645 WFUM 28 MI 210	Qwenton	0643 WFWA 39 IN 335
(SAP w/KIH29 wx)	2316 WKHA 35 KY 470	Ft Wayne (PBS)
1736 Dayton US 345	Hazard	28 ES 1658 WEDU 3 FL 1100
1912 WKOI 43(OH) 375	2328 WBNS 10 OH 295	1701 MUF 6
1957 WCET 48 OH 410	Columbus	1706 WPBT 2 FL 1220

Comments: Good tropo on the 22nd/23rd behind a slow-moving cold front. Had to go to work @ 0700 while DX was still strong. Co-workers were surprised to see W1AP-15 and WKEF-22 coming in on the office monitor.
svnty-3s, Bill

ED NOTES: I'VE NEVER HAD A MINIMUM MILEAGE REQUIREMENT FOR REPORTING TROP RELOGS, AND I NEVER WILL. EXCESSIVE REPORTING OF THE SAME STATIONS MANY TIMES A MONTH, MONTH AFTER MONTH REGARDLESS OF 50 OR 300 MILES WILL BE EDITED DOWN. I FEEL THIS IS FAIR TO ALL AND DOESN'T DISCRIMINATE THOSE WHO CAN SEE DX LESS THAN 150 MILES. I DON'T WANT TO DISCOURAGE ANYONE FROM REPORTING.... YET I MUST DO MY JOB AS EDITOR, SO I FELT SINCE TAKING OVER AS ETVDX EDITOR, I HAVE FOUND THIS OPEN POLICY TO THE MOST LIBERAL I COULD THINK OF. If you disagree, please write & tell me-BN
Thank for Understanding! Bill

WESTERN TV-DX

Fred McCormack
Box 9077
Prairiewood Station
 Fargo, ND 58106-9077

Deadline: *01-31-91*
Cut-off: 11-01-90

Eastern TV DX January 1991

Joseph Fela -150 Robert Place - South Plainfield, N.J. - 07080

Equipment: G.E. monitor, Antennacraft P-7 dish @ 35 ft., Winegard PA-4975 amp, rotor.

September 1990	6 Tr 0651 WUNJ 39 NC	7 Tr 2059 WGBX 44 MA	213
28 Tr 0037 W25AA 25 VA	(NCPt color bars with ID in lower right). 477	2200 Boston 38-56 + Marlborough-66 in	
29 Tr 0000 MTVZ 33 VA	0700 W518H 51 VA	8 Tr 0100 Boston 25 and 56 snow free	
("Fox 33") 275	(Gloucester - Channel America) 246	0730 Boston and Hartford (but not Springfield) exceptional.	
October 1990	0714 WCVE 23 VA	(color bars with WCVE-WHTJ ID). 264	21 Tr 0035 W26AD 26 PA
6 Tr 0615 Norfolk 15-27-33 good + WRLH-35 VA s/f at times	0717 W48AW 48 DC (Washingtgn - Univision) 194	November was a bust on UHF. Only the usual stuff + a few openings to Salisbury and Norfolk.	73, Joe
0633 WJCB 49 VA	0727 WNCV 56 VA		
(color bars w/call, much weaker than the other Norfolks). 275	7 Tr 0629 WOLF 56 PA		
	(// To WOLF-38) 86		
	0644 WUNP 36 NC	334	

Joel Rosenberg 19 Glenayr Rd Richmond Hill ONT L4B 2W3 (416) 884-8454

September 1990	20 Tr 2300 Detroit U's 200	22 Tr 2000 WKEF 22 OH 375	
27 Tr 0748 UNID 38 HSC	29 Tr 2000 WGET 30 OH 250	WGR 45 OH 375	
WSFJ 51 t	WBSX 31 MI 230	WOSU 34 OH 325	2010
2245 WETK 33 VT 330	2055 South Bend Us 16,22,46,mds	UNIDs 40,46 religion	
2305 WVNY 22 VT 330	2100 WCET 48 OH 420	2030 WXIN 59 IN 440	
28 Tr 0740 CIII 22 ON 200	WKEF 22 t	2036 WDAK 67 OH 235	
October 1990	2102 UNID 63 HSC	WBSX 31 MI 230	
3 Tr 0740 Detroit, Clev, Syr, H20town U's	2107 WOSU 34 OH 325	WNDU 16 IN 380	
0740 W38AW NY -A11 NX Net	WRGT 45 OH 375	2100 WMMH 46 IN 380	
11 Tr 2300 Akron, Youngstown U's	2111 UNID 66 FOX Flint?	2102 WSBT 22 IN 380	
13 Tr 1850 Cleveland U's	2123 WFUM 28 MI 225	2125 WGGN 52 OH 235	
2300 Youngstown U's	2202 WEMT 39 t see note# 2	2127 WSTR 64 OH 420	
14 Tr 0800 WOSU 34 OH 325	2300 WTTE 28 OH 325	WCET 48 OH 420	
0828 WVNY 22 VT 330	Akron, Youngstown U's up	WFNA 39 TN t	
CIVO 30 PQ 230	2313 WGGN 52 t	WBGU 27 OH 295	
0833 WKMR 38 t	30 Tr 0730 WYOU 22 PA 250	2143 WTTE 28 OH 325	
0839 WKLE 46 t	WBRE 28 PA 250	2145 WIIB 63 IN 465	
0900 WETK 33 VT 330	WVIA 44 PA 250	2230 WSFJ 51 OH 310	
0905 WKON 52 t	WLYH 15 PA t	2233 WFIE 14 t	
0933 UNID 42 PBS	31 Tr 2030 Erie, Syracuse, Utica U's	2358 WSOBE OH 245-s/f	
0945 UNID 36 religion	November 1990	23 Tr 0000 WKON 52 KY 460	
Note 1-0948 WEMT 39 TN 563	13 Tr 2100 WYTV 33 OH 200	WCVN 54 KY 420	
1000 WKMR 39 KY 440	2100 WUAB 43 OH 200 band dead	0021 WHIZ 18 IN 300	
1000 WCET 48 OH 420	21 Tr 1600 CIVO 30 PQ band loaded	0028 CIVO 30 PQ 230	
16 Tr 2300 H20town, Syr, Utica NY & Kingston ONT U's	WENY 36 NY 170	0030 WSTR 64 OH 420	
20 Tr 1130 WBRE 28 PA 250	1700 WICZ 40 NY 210	0540 WHIZ 18 IN 300	
Scranton 16,22 t	WSKG 46 NY 210	UNIDs, Relig 19,33, Shop Sprée-28	
2000 Rochester LPTV's 15,38,40 22 Tr	2100 WMGC 34 NY 210	0550 WTPA 15 OH 325	
2200 C1093 42 ON 120	2000 Band loaded	0654 WLTW 44 OH 320	
	2000 WPTO 14 OH 405	0659 WANE 15 IN 345	
Note: #1 Last report I was raving about seeing TN, & here it happens twice more!		WSTR 64 OH 420	
		0730 WFUM 28 MI 225	
		UNID 14	NBC

Dude from Joisey PO Box 2999 Clifton NJ 07015-2999

Equipment; A TV, ANTENNA AND SOME WIRE.

November 1990

27 Tr 1840 Boston 38-56-66: 1920 York 43, Binghamton 34 + others.
28 Tr 0100 Boston up again plus WNDS 50 NH 260 whoopee! another TV state.need Maine now!
28 ES 1720 MUF to 93.3 to LA opening rapidly faded after this.

Comments: Today is 12/10/90 and nothing much in the way of DX...yet. I need Maine now on TV & FM to complete the U.S. Northeast. Maybe in 1991. Goodxing!-BN

January 1991

I received a note from Chris Hanley advising that Jeff Kadet had ID'ed his September 3 mystery logging of WFIE-14 on 65. It was W65BV Springfield, Illinois (primary WSEC-14).

William Draeb, Ellis St., Rt. #2, Kewaunee WI 54216 (414-388-2350)

CDT/CST

October 1990	31 tr 2049	WTVJT 4 FL	8 tr 2130	KSHBT 41 MO
26 tr 2136 WEVV 44(KY) 455	WCPXT 2 FL	2053	WTJR 16 IL 365	
WUSI 16 IL 390	WJXT 4 FL 1030	2100	KLJB 18(IL) 260	
WVUT 22 IN 400	2115 WCBW 2 SC 900	2115	2200 W45AJ 45 IL 165	
WDRB 41(IN) 430	WCVT 4 SC	2146	W62BU 62 IL 170	
31 tr 1820 W43AV 43 WI 105	WYFFt 4 SC	2200	(Rockford) WMT0-35	
(Waukesha) CHA	WSAV 3 GA 920	2220	W68BR 68 IL 170	
W45AJ 45 WI 165	WCSC 5 SC 900	2047	(Rockford) WCFC-38	
(Rockford) CHA	WESHT 2 FL	2049	WHSL 46(MO) 427	
Es 2035 WDIQ 2 AL 890	2200 KPRC 2 TX 1115	2049	WDNL 30 MO 432	
WTVY 4(FL) 940	WBR 2 LA 995	2049	KNLC 24 MO 432	
WEDU 3 FL 1185	2220 KATC 3 LA 1030	2049	9 tr 1820 KXLI 41 MN 310	
WRBL 3 GA 850	WUFTt 5 FL	2049	27 Es 1724 KXMA 2 ND	
WUFTt 5 FL	November 1990	2049	KWSET 4 ND	
2047 WEAR 3(AL) 955	8 tr 2130	2049	KYU 3 MT	
2049 WKRG 5(AL) 950	K41ADt 41 IA	2049	KOUST 4 MT	

Dennis Park Smith, 3703 Dixon Street, Santa Barbara CA 93105-2419

It has been awhile, huh -- maybe fifteen years or so. Although I am now in Santa Barbara, I would like to "catch up" with general conditions (even without DX'ing seriously) where I lived from 1975 until February 1990, if I may be allowed to as your space permits.

Paradise (15 miles east of Chico) sits on a ridge in the Sierra Nevada foothills in northern California. Our house was at 1990' asl, approximately 1750' above the Sacramento Valley. Good location for consistent ground wave and tropo, but not as good for E skip as Chico (approximately 250' asl) would be. Big Channel Master all channel antenna was on top of 100' pine tree, but pointed southwest and no rotor. Extra tree height helped with UHF, but made little difference with VHF over a 20' pole. Distances are approximate.

The one STRONG local was 12 Chico (12 mi). Strong enough to be snow free were 24 Chico (40). 7, 9 Redding (75), 3, 6, 10, 13, 31, 40, 58 Sacramento/Stockton (105), 50 Santa Rosa (90), 43 Concord and 64 Stockton (125). Usually fair were 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 14, 20, 26, 32, 38, 44, 60, 66 metro San Francisco (145) and 3, 6 Eureka from back side (135). Following were much affected by tropo. Snow free as often as poor, but always there: 19 Modesto (140), 36, 48, 54 (155) and 65 (175) San Jose; 11 San Jose (175) would have been except sandwiched between 10 and 12. Non-consistent, seen occasionally by tropo (generally up to fair-good) were 8, 35 Salinas (200), 46 Monterey (215), 21, 30, 47, Fresno (225), 15, 24, Fresno (245) before locals existed, 26 Visalia (260), 17, 23, 29, 45 Bakersfield (335), and 6 San Luis Obispo (300).

More interesting was translator/LPTV DX. Nearby snow free ones were 5 Paradise (for 7 Redding, 4 mi) and 18 Oroville (24 Chico, 10). Poor, but consistent were 8 Oroville (7 Redding, 15), 51 Palermo (31 Sacramento, 25), 4 Bieber(?) (12 Chico, 90), and these from Lakeport: 52 (12 Chico), 56 (2 Oakland), 58 (3 Sacramento), 62 (6 Sacramento, 36 San Jose overnight), 64 (13 Stockton), 68 (10 Sacramento) (80). Seen occasionally on tropo, up to fair when in, were 62 Placerville (TBN, 85), 25 San Jose/Santa Cruz (54 San Jose, 175), 29 Salinas (36 San Jose, 200), and more rarely 57 and 59 San Jose and Hollister (46 Monterey, 175, 200). The best such DX was for most of a week in November 1989 (not before or since): 34 Fresno (42 Concord, 215), almost snow free, and 56 Hanford(?) (or Fresno area) (TBN, 215+) poor-fair.

Occasional E skip there over the years was identified from such places as Denver, Midland, Texas, western Canada, Albuquerque and Spanish from Mexico, generally on channels 2 and 4. All this is from memory as nothing was written down. Translators / LPTVs, especially, are in a 'half-blind' situation without much in way of station list. A few on-air calls of translators were noted, but not here to save space. Next time: some recent activity in my old home town of Wasco, California. Best of DX to all.

(Good to hear from you! For newer members information, Dennis started the Western TV/FM column in January 1968 and edited it through August 1976. fm)

TU C.C.I.

[UNIDENTIFIED DX]

John F. Combs, N4SFS
P.O. Box 7581
Tallahassee FL 32314
NOTE NEW ADDRESS!

"THE ART OF THE I.D." (Part II) Using the Telephone to Track Down UNIDs

The modern U.S. phone system is a wondrous thing. Even with the confusion and complications wrought by the breakup of old Ma Bell, it is still the most complex, complete, reliable phone system in the world. Yet many DXers never pick up the phone in an attempt to solve their unidentified loggings.

Invariably, the reason given for this is usually the same: the notion that phoning long distance "costs too much" to use for this purpose. In reality, long distance phone service is an incredible bargain if you keep your calls short and to the point, and make educated choices about who to call, and when.

The most obvious use for the phone is to call a suspect station to confirm programming details. Many shy away from calling a DX station because they dread the inevitable necessity of explaining what DX is, and why they're calling from hundreds of miles away. The average receptionist taking the call is probably thinking "wacko" and will do whatever it takes to get rid of you. Not always, but often.

The answer to this is simple: DON'T MENTION DXING WHEN YOU CALL!! Be creative. Pretend you're a local. You can even affect a regional accent if you can do it convincingly. Phrase your questions carefully and leadingly, such as "Gee, that's a real good movie you have on there, but I tuned in late and missed the title. Could you tell me the name of it so I can look for it at the video store?" Or, "Wow! I really like that program you had on at 11 this morning... what was the name of that again?" If the response is the name of the movie or program you logged, you're in luck. If they answer negatively or hesitatingly, like "Er... we didn't have a movie on this morning... are you sure it was THIS morning?" you know you're barking up the wrong tree. Hang up. Either way, the whole phone call should take about 3 minutes, max. To make sure you get the proper person right away, ask specifically for the programming department when you call.

Another useful way in which the telephone can be a tool for obtaining an ID is calling businesses that are advertising on the unID station. Suppose you see an ad for "Murray's Mortuary" with a phone number of 555-1234. You've already narrowed the PTA of the opening to a few states. Get out your phone book and see which area codes the possible stations lie in. Dial that number with each of those area codes. If the number is not a working number in a given code, or has been disconnected, you pay nothing. If the call is answered by a business or individual other than Murray's, hang up. You'll be charged for a one minute call. If the person who answers the phone greets you with "Good Morning! Murray's Mortuary. May I help you?" you've basically made an ID! After all, even if Murray has a chain of mortuaries in different states and area codes, the chances of two of them having the exact same 7-digit number are astronomical. And best of all, the most you've spent is 2 or 3 dollars on a few one-minute calls.

LPTVs present a special challenge. Many are really just passive translators for satellite programming, and have no local phone number. Even if the LPTV has a local phone, it will not usually be listed under its actual calls. If you note them using a slogan or pseudo-call letters, try those. One way to try to track down an LPTV is to call the Television or Entertainment editor of the local newspaper in a suspect city. Many of these individuals are videophiles of varying degrees of commitment, and may well know about an obscure LPTV or translator of which most of the general public is ignorant.

Finally, use the phone to call your fellow DXers. If there is an active DXer in the PTA of your unID, try directory assistance for the number. Personally, I wish more DXers would include their home phone numbers in their reports. I understand the concern that some have about unlisted numbers and privacy. However, the VUD has a very limited circulation, and is of interest to a very limited group of individuals. I doubt that unwanted or annoying calls would result from listing your number in the VUD. I've had an unlisted number for many years and have always published it in the VUD. I've never had a problem with annoying calls, and nobody's ever given my number to any salesman either.

These are just a few examples of how you can use the telephone in tracking down UNIDs. There's most likely a phone in your DX shack... use it!

UNIDENTIFIED LOGGINGS APPEAR ON THE NEXT PAGE, AFTER THIS BRIEF MESSAGE FROM OUR SPONSOR:

DX DISTANCE PRINTOUTS: still available, still as good as ever! Imagine having a printout of your exact distances to most North American TV stations right at your fingertips! All it takes is \$7 U.S. mailed to the address at the head of this column. Include your exact latitude and longitude. Soon an overpaid postal worker (I should know, I used to be one) will trudge up to your door through rain, snow, sleet, hail, etc. and place your DX DISTANCE PRINTOUT in your mail receptacle. They make great holiday gifts, too! Order one for all your friends and co-workers! (They won't know what the hell it is, but they'll appreciate the thought...) Cash, check or money orders accepted. Allow from 3 days to 3 weeks for delivery. (Hey, I have a weird schedule. I'm doing the best I can...)

Several comments and tentative IDs sent in will have to wait until next month due to lack of space! They will appear next time. Promise. Scout's honor.

TV-CCI

UNIDENTIFIED LOGGINGS

Robert S. Ross, VE3JFC, Box 4373, Station C, London ON N5W 5J2

Sun Aug 12 Tr ch 30 0230 EDT --- End of movie. CBC-TV ID w/list of CBC stns on screen, then anthem and off at 0235. Was //chs. 40/45. Greg Coniglio says it could be image/mixing due to strong tropes. (Possible. Channel 45 would image around channels 30/31 if it was particularly strong. Nevertheless, there could well be yet another new Canadian UHF on---jfc)

Doug Smith, W9WI, 3105 Oakridge Ave., Madison WI 53704-5848

Mon Sep 3 Tr ch 14 2300 EDT --- Easter Seals Telethon. Both stns too weak to read local numbers. PTA: OH, ON. (Sure it wasn't the Muscular Dystrophy (Jerry Lewis) Telethon? I don't think Easter Seals does theirs on the same weekend---jfc)

Wed Aug 29 Tr ch 30 evening --- Channel America affiliate. PTA: Chicago area.

Joseph Fela, 150 Robert Place, South Plainfield NJ 07080

Tue Sep 4 Tr ch 25 0715 EDT --- Unusual bar pattern. Pgm start around 0730 in French. Man and woman with a morning show. (Could be CBLFT in Toronto or CFVS in Val D'Or PQ, which relays CFJP-35. Any ideas, Canadian members? Does either one have a "morning" type show at the time indicated?---jfc)

Wed Sep 5 Tr ch 28 0255 EDT --- Home shopping. 28 was not WBRE and 30 was not WVIT. PTA: OH, KY or ??? (A few questions: were these // to each other, were they Home Shopping Network affiliates, or were they running Home Shopping Spree, which is HSN's service for non-affiliates?---jfc)

Saul Chernos, P.O. Box 611, Orilla ON L3V 6K5 (705) 327-7809

Fri Aug 3 Tr ch 33 0815 EDT --- "CBC OTTAWA" test pattern. ch 42 0817 EDT --- TVOntario. (These are most likely CBOT5-33 and CICO93-42, both in MacArthur Mills ON---jfc)

Tue Aug 21 Es ch 4 2330 EDT --- "KX4" news, mention MN. FM-DX to MN at the time. (It's KXJB-4, Saul---jfc)

Frank Merrill, P.O. Box 669, Macomb IL 61455

Thu Sep 6 Tr ch 39 0436 CDT --- RETMA test pattern, no calls, faded just before 0500. PTA: MN, extreme west WI, NW Ontario, Manitoba. (Gosh, I haven't seen a RETMA in years, Frank. It's not a very common TP these days, so hopefully will be easy to track down!---jfc)

Sun Sep 9 Tr ch 7 0427 CDT --- "O Canada" s/on, then James Robison ministry. Offset zero. No English stations listed on 7z in Ontario. (But what about CIII7-7, which is not in the WTFDA Station Guide? I don't know if they are zero, but this sounds like Global, since CBC and CTV aren't noted for carrying evangelists like Robison---jfc)

Sat Oct 20 Tr ch 52 0130 CDT --- TBN from southwest. PTA: Ozarks, eastern OK; ch 39 0400 CDT --- Family Channel from southwest. Same PTA. (Both may be Springfield MO. K39CI has "Christian Life Center" for permittee and K52DH has "John Wayne and Kathryn..." listed as permittee. Try calling the Springfield paper, or check Directory Assistance for listings for the permittees---jfc)

Michael Reid, 1408-65 Spring Garden Ave., North York ON M2N 6H9

Tue Sep 4 Tr ch 66 2210 EDT --- Full bar TP (6 bars, I think). W66BV w/loss of feed? WSMH? PTA: northwest OH or eastern MI.

Thu Sep 6 Tr ch 51 1445 EDT --- What looked like a few seconds of a rock video or 900 number ad surfaced briefly. One scene had a thick, dark border around the screen with a head-shot of a man in his twenties. VJN? Definitely not CICA51, CBOT4, or WSFJ. Maybe a promo clip on HSN? PTA: south or south-east direction. ch 61 1452 EDT --- Cartoons in EE. Definitely not WQHS or CBLFT8. Same PTA.

John F. Combs, P.O. Box 7581, Tallahassee FL 32314 (904) 878-6317 (HIGH PRIORITY LOGGINGS)

Sun Oct 14 Tr ch 46 1145 EDT --- VJN affiliate in briefly. LA stns strong. Carlon Howings says he IDed this as Baton Rouge last year, but 1990 TV Factbook shows VJN on another channel in Baton Rouge.

Mon Oct 15 Tr ch 10 0500 EDT --- Ron LeBlanc confirms it as being somewhere to his north. Spanish ECO affiliate, running //XER-9. Could this be Monterey, or does KZTV-10 run ECO in the wee hours?

OUT OF SPACE AGAIN... MORE NEXT TIME... IT'S BEEN REAL...

PHOTO NEWS

JANUARY 1991

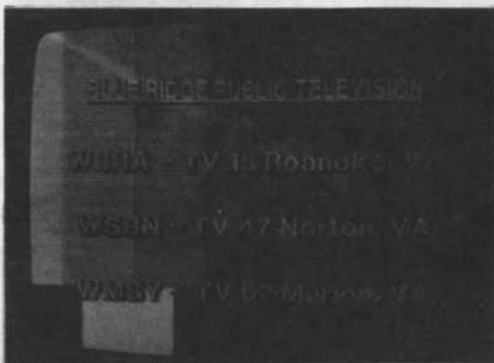
Mailings Address:
PHOTO-NEWS -
17284 Nice Rd - Akron NY 14001-9529.
Photos submitted to PHOTO-NEWS become
the property of this column and will not
be returned.
EDITED BY
David J. Nieman

Starting off the new year is Jeff Kadet - Macomb, Illinois. See the December 1990 VUD for Jeff's DX equipment.

W50BE
Mansfield, Ohio
420 mile tropo
seen Aug. 27 1990
at 0329 CDT



WMSY-52
Marion Virginia
549 mile tropo
seen Aug. 27 1990
at 0445 CDT



KWHD-53
Castle Rock, CO
770 mile tropo
seen Aug. 29 1990
at 0830 CDT



More from Jeff next month.

Next up is Greg Coniglio - Williamsville, New York with some E-skip and tropo catches from late last year.

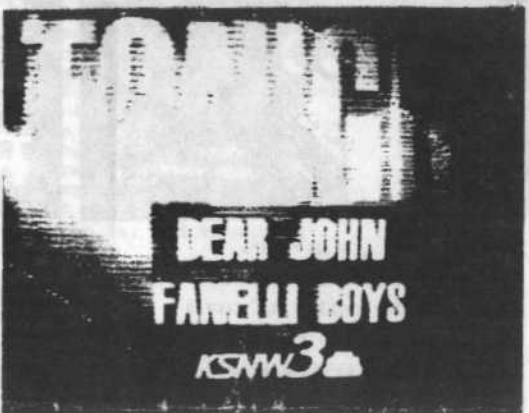
WETK-33
Burlington, Vermont
295 mile tropo
seen Sept. 3, 1990



WHME-46
South Bend, Indiana
404 mile tropo
seen October 20 1990



KSNW-3
Wichita, Kansas
1064 mile E-skip
seen October 31 1990

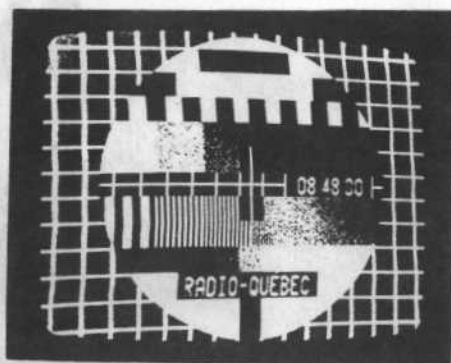


Thanks Greg for sending the photocopies of your DX photos. This save the club money and me time. They look good and should reproduce well.

Last is yours truly Dave Nieman - Akron, New York; equipment: RCA 19" b&w TV with a Teknika 6510 tuner, Channel Master (CM) 3617B VHF at 23' above ground (AG), CM 7' dish with a Blonder-Tongue CMA-Ub preamp on a crankup tower at 40' AG using RG-11 coax for both antennae. Camera is a Canon 35MM shutter speed 1/30 sec., F5.6 & Kodacrome 200 speed film.



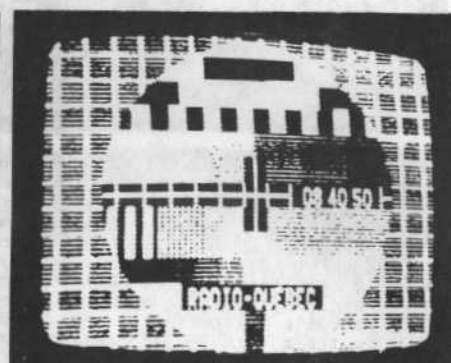
W59BV
Rochester, New York
49 mile tropo
seen August 28, 1990
at 2400 EDT



CIVO-30
Hull, Quebec
219 mile tropo
seen September 5, 1990
at 0848 EDT



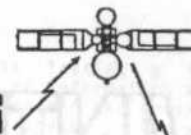
CFJP-35
Montreal, Quebec
300 mile tropo
seen September 5, 1990
at 0900 EDT



CIVS-24
Sherbrooke, Quebec
350 mile tropo
seen October 30, 1990
0840 EDT

Till next time. *DAVE*

SATELLITE NEWS



GEORGE W. JENSEN
4604 Arntana Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21206-4220

Greetings! I hope that the holidays have been good to all and a lot of great DX was achieved. There has been a lot of moving around on the birds with some services pulling the plug or something.

SBS 6 on the Ku side is alive and active at 99 West. Galaxy 6 is alive and active at 91 West. Satcom C1 is now aloft and will locate at 139 West taking the place of Satcom 1 which will be moved to 131 West to take the place of rapidly failing F3.

GStar IV will be located at 125 West (this is Ku only)

At a later date if Satcom C5 is launched successfully, it will locate at 139 West and Satcom C-1 will be placed at 137 West.

Perhaps as a result of the suit against Tuxedo and others the Graff service Spice which was on Galaxy 2-15 has apparently ceased operation. The other Graff service Drive-In continues to operate.

On January 3, 1991 - ALL PBS FEEDS WILL RELOCATE TO SPACENET 1, XPDRs 3, 5, 9 & 23. This will probably entail the move of Three Angels and TV Heaven to another location.

USA Direct which operates on Telstar 302 X17 also has been noted on Galaxy 2 XPDR 2.

Cable Video Store seems to have moved from Galaxy 2 XPDR 5 to Satcom 4 XPDR 4. This was occupied by Guest Cinema. I believe they may have merged.

In-Court and Courtroom Television Network have merged delaying the start-up on Satcom 4 XPDR 24.

I now have SPC capability. Westsat Communications has a good listing of available programming, unfortunately, the receiver that I have does not show actual frequencies. I basically can only indicate which satellite and polarity to use to receive things. Single Carrier Per Channel is basically for radio transmissions only.

Noted on Intelsat 34 West Horizontal is KNR - Greenland operating in Danish and Eskimo dialect according to times listed in the World Radio TV Handbook.

Radio Marti is on Satcom 2 alongside a relay of Radio Rebelde Havana which seems to be being lifted directly off air probably at Marathon Key. The QRM at night from other stations is indication of this.

Noted on Morelos 1 has been Stereo Rey and something called Energy 99 both in Spanish.

That's all for this month. See you in 30.

George



WINTER FM DXING

BY DOUG ALLEN

Do winter conditions dampen your enthusiasm for FM DXing? It's true, both E-skip and good tropo are unlikely during the months of November through March in most parts of the country. We have a minor Es peak during December and January which corresponds to June and July in the southern hemisphere, but most of us will be lucky to catch a single opening here in North America. And tropo in the frozen north is almost nonexistent though our southern neighbors are a little better off. For instance, gulf coast tropo is a real possibility.

There are, however, several possibilities for FM DX. Tropo scatter out to 500 miles is possible at any season and aurora propagation is also a possibility, especially in the more northern latitudes. However, for most of us the best bet for winter doldrum DX is meteor scatter. During the 2 1/2 years I've been here in Colorado, I've ID'd 21 states on ms including one, Arizona, that I've heard on no other mode. During the last 27 years I've spent hundreds of hours DXing ms, mainly on amateur radio frequencies.

Meteor scatter occurs when small particles of solid matter enter the earth's atmosphere and become heated to incandescence forming a cylinder of dense ionization behind the meteor. Billions of particles the size of a grain of sand are swept up by the earth daily. These meteor trails occur in the E layer at heights around 50 to 75 miles in the ionosphere. This is the same height as Es propagation occurs, and skip distances are similar, about 600 to 1400 miles. Both empirical study and theory suggest that the geometry of ms propagation is as follows: the ionized path must occur perpendicular to and approximately equidistant from the transmitting and receiving station. Those much rarer meteors which are considerably larger than a grain of sand may create an "overdense column" of ionization that will reflect radio waves from any angle. They are probably responsible for any meteor scatter at less than 600 miles.

To hear meteor scatter propagation tune to any quiet frequency on your FM dial and turn your antenna towards an area where there are stations around 700-1200 miles, the distance that is most favored by ms. You will hear more ms signals around 6 AM local time because the rotating earth is rotating into sporadic meteor paths whereas 12 hours later around 6 PM meteor velocity has to be great enough to catch up with the flight of the earth. Because most of the early morning meteors swept up by the earth will have a more or less east to west trajectory, you will hear a few more pings and bursts by aiming north or south than by aiming east or west.

Meteor scatter signals appear randomly at practically full strength and usually disappear just as abruptly. Tropo scatter signals and E skip signals are different. They usually fade up out of the noise and later fade out. You will also notice fading on airplane scatter whereas tropo signals may or may not show fading, but will typically last much longer than the several second to minute or two length of the very best ms bursts. You'll soon learn to recognize ms signals by these and other characteristics.

WINTER FM DXING

Very short meteor scatter signals lasting a fraction of a second and conveying no more than a syllable of information are called pings. Signals lasting more than a fraction of a second and conveying two or more syllables of information are usually called bursts. You will hear many more pings than bursts. Although many ms signals are strong enough to break a sensitive squelch and can even be heard occasionally on a good car radio with a whip antenna, most ms signals are less than 20 db out of the noise. Therefore, you'll hear a lot more from class C stations running 100 kw than from 3 kw stations that are 15 db down in signal strength. So if you're a newcomer to ms DXing, choose a quiet class C frequency if possible.

Most of us will have only a few really quiet frequencies for ms DXing. For ms you might want to DX with an antenna just a few feet above ground in order to minimize ground wave interference if that's a problem. Polarization and height above ground will make little difference for ms DXing. An omni directional antenna is also satisfactory. Learn the call letters and formats of the stations in the 700-1200 mile range that you're most apt to hear on that frequency. And then listen, listen, listen. You can be reading a book, cooking dinner, or writing an article (as I am) while you monitor the frequency.

To give you an idea of what to expect I've put a clock or watch with a second hand by my radio and recorded the average number of pings and bursts at different times of the day and on different frequencies. I encourage you to do the same. I usually record for a ten minute period. On my most quiet class C frequencies such as 98.1 I hear about 10 pings per minute and about 50 seconds worth of bursts around 7 AM. Around 7 PM it's about 4 pings and 20 seconds worth of bursts during a 10 minute period. On a quiet class A frequency I hear about 3 pings a minute and about 10 seconds worth of bursts during 10 minutes of monitoring at 7 AM and less than half that amount in the evening.

The pings don't convey enough information to be useful, but even short bursts of a second or two are long enough to hear call letters, nonIDs, "Denver's weather," parts of ads, traffic reports, promos, etc. Most bursts are of only a second or two duration, but I hear about one 10 second burst or better each 10 minute monitoring period on my favorable frequencies in the morning. And about once an hour I'll hear a burst of over 20 seconds. On some frequencies where I know there's only one b, g, j, or c format I can be pretty sure of the ID though I only hear it a few seconds. Of course, I wouldn't count a new station on that basis, but I might mentally relog it. For instance, I hear many bursts from San Francisco's KABL on 98.1 and a few bursts from Reading's KVIP-FM on the same frequency. Both formats are distinctive. KABL IDs frequently, and I can usually record at least one ID an hour. KVIP-FM probably only IDs on the hour and half hour so despite many minutes of bursts over many hours of monitoring I haven't caught an ID and haven't counted the station.

To determine your probable rate of success of IDing a ms signal, determine how many seconds during an hour your local stations ID or give other specific information which you might use to count the station. Stations in other parts of the country with similar formats will probably ID about the same amount. Some stations ID frequently and give frequent weather and traffic reports or local ads that might help you count them. Such stations in my area give about 10-20 IDs an hour which take 15 to 30 seconds of station time an hour. In addition, some of these stations broadcast specific local information about 15 to 30 seconds each hour. Things like "Denver's weather." Therefore, you have about 30 to 60 seconds during each hour to possibly ID such a station.

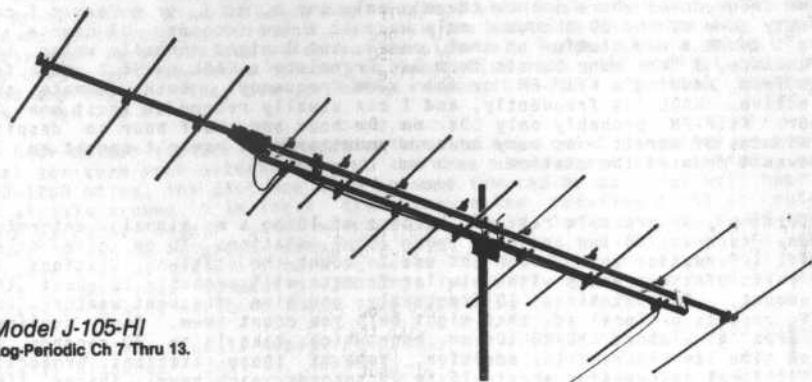
WINTER FM DXING

On my most favorable frequencies and times I receive about 50 seconds worth of bursts in a ten minute period or 5 minutes an hour. These bursts will normally be from a number of different stations, some of which may only ID on the hour. The chance of hearing that one ID on the hour is approximately one in twelve or about 8%. Actually some bursts will be too garbled due to doppler shift or because two or more stations are mixing. Therefore, 5 or 6% is a more realistic figure. So you have about a one in twenty chance of catching that ID on the hour under very favorable circumstances. But what that means is that a station that IDs 20 times an hour on a quiet class C frequency might be ID'd most morning hours. And that has been my experience. Of course, infrequent IDers will require much more time.

For most DXers your first dozen or two ms stations should be easy and 100 or more should be possible using the techniques outlined above. If you're an experienced ms DXer you might check Fred Nordquist's "FM Statistics" column. There are actually frequencies where no one has ever reported ms DX! You could be the first! In a future article I'll describe more advanced techniques such as taking advantage of meteor showers and using squelch or vox circuits to make monitoring a little easier, and ms DXing TV. Another benefit of monitoring ms is that you can also "sit" on a frequency which might produce a most wanted tropo scatter station. And by monitoring regularly you might also catch one of those elusive winter Es or tropo openings.

75-ohm J-Series System Antennas

GENERAL
INSTRUMENT



Model J-105-HI
Log-Periodic Ch 7 Thru 13.

MORE MODIFICATIONS!

HOW TO INCREASE THE ABILITY TO FINE TUNE A DIGITAL TUNER
CASE SUBJECT: SONY ST-J60

-Bill Nienajadly

After reading that Southern FM DX editor Danny Buntin changed the tuning increments on his Onkyo T-9090 from 200 khz to 25 khz by simply adding a diode. I wondered if it was possible to do the same on my Sony ST-J60 digital tuner. I was always aware that if one cuts out a diode on some scanners, it is then possible to get extra channels and better performance. But after reading Danny's report, I was inspired to see what results I could achieve.

It seems that the diode seems to play a major role in some way when it comes to tuning in steps and channel capacity in some way. I really do not know why. But by adding or cutting out a diode at the right spot can evidently change things for the better.

Before I go and tell you what to do, please remember that the tip I'm going to give you is for a Sony ST-J60 digital tuner. The concept here, is the possibility of adapting these tips to your model. Trial & error is the key here, I wouldn't recommend trying this on a tuner or receiver unless you have some soldering skill and the set is out of warranty. The reason being, you will likely be cutting some wrong wires along the way and you might have to re-solder it. Also if you ever have to get it serviced someday under warranty, they might not honor the warranty....OK I scared off about 1% of you, now for the 99% remaining!

As said earlier: Danny added a diode, for the Sony ST-J60 I cut out a diode, and more. With the cover off (of course!), look toward the front of the tuner (the circuit board part) you will notice a big 'IC' chip labelled 'NEC D552C' this is the biggest chip in the tuner, you can't miss this baby! Now...look at the lower right hand corner about a 1/2" away from the chip and you will see a diode, a bunch of resistors and some JW (jumper wires). Once you located this general area, you will notice that the circuit board has the part #'s on it. WITH THE POWER OFF!...Cut JW60, cut R621, cut D602. Make sure that the part cut are no longer touching each other. Turn back on the power and you have 50 khz tuning steps now! That's it folks! It's that easy!

Of course I mentioned that it was trial and error for me, I made the mistake the day before of connecting the cut diode lead to a resistor and the 'IC' chip was running quite hot, but I found out the best way to do it (after cutting 'this and that') now the chip is running at normal temp.

What is the possibility of other tuners/receivers that are digital be modified in the same manner? Maybe! Suppose say Onkyo uses the same chip in all their digital tuners/receivers and the diode (or the lack of one) determines what tuning increments your certain Onkyo set has. The possibility of just doing a little trial & error with the diode can enable one to tune in 25 khz increments from 200 khz tuning.

The Onkyo T-9090 Mk11 (about \$725) off the shelf store bought, tunes in 25 khz tuning, however the T-9090 (about \$500) off the shelf store bought, tunes in 200 khz tuning steps. Like I said, if the lower priced models say a \$250 store bought receiver uses the same chip then it should be possible to mod it to tune like the T-9090 Mk11 (about \$725) just by adding a 25 cent diode!

Say a top of the line brand, say Pioneer, Yamaha, Denon or what ever tuner you can think of, tunes in smaller steps than 200 khz, but the mid priced and lower end of the above brands use the same 'chip' as the top of the line brands listed above but only tunes 200 khz, then it is likely possible you can change the steps on the lower priced units.

In closing I hope I shed some light on this modification. I hope you have much success in your efforts to modify. Please: tell others in the club on how you changed the tuning steps in your digital receiver/tuner.

Oh yes...If you own a Carver TX-11a, you already know about the switch inside the Carver tuner that enables one to have 50 khz tuning steps 'with the flick of a switch' as reported last year by Bill Nollman. But the TX-11 (not the 11a) has no switch to change the steps. Using the tips told above, one might attempt changing the steps, but those that do not want to 'experiment' on their \$500+ tuners might want to try another approach. Obtain schematics for both the TX-11 and TX-11a and trace the circuits nearest to the chip for a diode added or missing. Of course this might be a bit difficult due to the fact that the TX-11a has also a AM section where as the TX-11 does not. Hence there might much more parts to trace on the TX-11a. Don't worry too much though, I believe someone from our great club will likely report on step changing for the Carver TX-11.

The comparison of schematics between a high end and a mid/lower price tuner might reveal a lot!
Good luck & Goodxing!-BN

A USER'S VIEW OF THE ICOM R7000

BY TROY MIMS

As an ICOM R-7000 user, I note that other V.U.D. readers have added this piece of equipment to their DX-ing "arsenals." While not being a full-blown tech review by any means, I thought I would write this to share my thoughts about the usefulness of this machine to the DXer. I tend to agree with most comments that have been made so far, but admit that much of your results depend on your location, as is, I suppose, the case with most DX equipment (nothing beats a box with bells and whistles like a 1000 foot mountain 100 mi. away from all local transmitters, right?).

The ICOM video adapter (TV-R7000) gives you baseband video. If you use a good monochrome video monitor, such as a CCTV monitor with 700 lines of resolution, the video looks VERY good. The audio (mono) comes from the adapter, which taps into the 10.7 MHz IF output of the receiver (ICOM also sells an FM stereo adapter). I've found it's better to just take the video from the adapter, and rely on the receiver audio output for the audio.

Forget about using the R-7000 on Meteor Scatter DX. I've noticed that sync stability on weak signals is not quite so good as it is on a 12" Magnavox, despite the good sensitivity. This MAY be the fault of the video adapter or the AGC action of the R-7000. There is definitely much MORE crossmod on VHF than there is with most of the conventional TV tuners. On UHF, things are a bit different, perhaps due to the different IF stage schemes used. Sensitivity improves as you approach the 800 MHz cellular phone bands. That's not a surprise, that's what many users want it for! Selectivity on UHF on the ICOM is somewhat better than most TV sets, especially as you approach the higher U channels. However something like the old "hybrid" RCA's and Zeniths from circa 1972-76 would out-perform it in selectivity, though NOT in the sensitivity department.

It IS possible to hear the audio of weaker stations much sooner than you would with a conventional UHF TV tuner. Good examples of this are UHF TVers around 180 mi. away from me, actually listenable much of the time, often still intelligible when these stations are only showing up as framebars on other TV's. A conservative guess is that it adds about 50 miles to your daily UHF TV audio tropo-scatter range. True, some TV-only DXers and purists would say "but, this isn't TV DXing, it's only TV audio DXing!" But, you can hear signals you wouldn't get on a standard TV DX hookup with regular TV set or VCR tuner, so it is one HECK of a useful accessory!

The R-7000 is definitely NOT a good tuner for FM DX! To be blunt, it's a disaster if you have any kind of decent local signals. Image response from 70 to 110 MHz is very bad, crossmod and general overload effects are easily noticed. I haven't tried to modify the filters used for the "FM wide" mode, but doing so would no doubt help (word is that one or two of the radio equipment dealers will do various mods for you, but such aftermarket work may void the R-7000 warranty). In the FM wide mode, using the S-meter, I've noted that adjacent channel rejection is only about 15 dB, and alternate channel is also quite poor. In this part of the VHF spectrum, the ICOM seems to have very poor blocking dynamic range and IMD rejection. While it is sensitive, image rejection is rather poor in some parts of the VHF range.

The R-7000 is overpriced, like much of ICOM's ham radio gear. It can retail for as much as \$1095, with the video adapter going for as much as \$140. If you want one, call not just one or two dealers, call several. All the good ones have ads in your ham and scanner publications, and they are quite competitive. I won't tell you where I got mine, but three personal favorite dealers I WILL name are Amateur Radio Electronics, Grove Electronics, and Electronic Equipment Bank.

R-7000 options are also pricey, but you do need the video adapter for video DX-ing. The adapter can be easily adjusted for 625-line foreign video standards when used with a good (700-line or greater) monochrome monitor that accepts a standard baseband video input. Most of the other options you don't need. In a small DX shack at arm's length, the ICOM remote didn't seem like a good idea to me, so I didn't go for it. The discone "all channel" antenna they sell is highly regarded among scanner/monitor enthusiasts. Above 110 MHz, it does a great job on local ham and PSB signals to over 900 MHz--almost like having a good ground plane cut for any one of the bands in question. But, you really don't want a discone for weak signal DX-ing!

It's an expensive toy, to be sure, but among the main reasons I bought it was the decent coverage of the ham bands on VHF and UHF, the cellular range, STL's above 930 MHz, etc. I also wanted to be able to monitor ham TV signals. The ham video signals in the 440, 900 and 1296 MHz bands are easy to receive, providing you have (1.) local ATV-active hams and (2.) a decent antenna for the band.

It's versatile for experimenting too. The signal meter (which can double as a center-tune meter) is ideal for tuning traps and "A/B'ing" antennas, and (as has been noted by reporters in VUD) having the ability to measure a station's frequency down to .1 of a kHz aids ID'ing video carriers in a big way--especially "oddball" ones, such the UHF translators and LPTVs, some of which have been noted to be as much as 40 kHz off center channel. Welcome to the "Mickey Mouse engineering" world of LPTV! The feds would never let the full-service stations get away with that! Believe me, getting this receiver has made me want to go out and cut a homebrew yagi for each one of the new bands I can monitor. This is an excellent receiver for those who are really interested in the higher bands, allowing you to tune those bands in ways the serious user will appreciate the most. But--it won't replace your FM DX tuner, and at best is a useful accessory to a good TV-DX post.

STATION BREAK

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