

# S B E

CHAPTER 24

SOCIETY of BROADCAST ENGINEERS

MADISON, WI

PAGE ONE

August 1990

Edited by: Leonard Charles  
Articles Welcome!! Send them to:  
Chapter 24 Newsletter  
5714 Modernaire St.  
Madison, WI 53711  
(608)-274-0041  
(608)-271-4321  
(hard copy or ASCII text message  
on BBS at 608-274-7776)

Contributors this month:  
Doug McDonell  
Doug Smith  
Tom Weeden  
Stan Sarch  
Chris Cain

## MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

DATE: Aug 15, 1990

ALEXANDERS  
SCHROEDER ROAD  
(Whitney Way at the Beltline)  
Dinner: 5:30pm  
Business Meeting: 7:00pm  
Program follows meeting

This month, Merrald B. Shrader of Varian Eimac will speak. Mr. Shrader is the Manager of Klystron Engineering for the Company.

Note: Alexanders provides us with great meeting facilities free of charge. Their only payment is from some of us who eat/drink before the meeting. The number of "eaters" is on the decline. If this continues, we could be in danger of losing a "choice" meeting room in favor of larger groups. So, if your schedule permits, come dine with us!

## UPCOMING MEETING DATES

September 13, 1990  
Oct 4-7 - SBE National  
October 16, 1990  
November 14, 1990  
December 13, 1990  
January 15, 1991  
February 13, 1991  
March 21, 1991  
April 23, 1991  
May 22, 1991

## YOUR OFFICERS....

### CHAIRMAN:

Steve Zimmerman (WKOW TV) W - 274-1234  
H - 845-8738

### VICE CHAIRMAN:

Jim Hermanson (WTSO/WZEE) W - 275-7130  
H - 231-2005

### SECRETARY:

Tom Weeden (WMTV TV) W - 274-1515  
H - 276-7915

### TREASURER:

Fred Sperry (WI Public TV/ TOC) W - 273-5500  
H - 833-6074

## COMMITTEE APPOINTEES

Past President - Andy Murphy/Denny Behr  
Membership - Dave Gerisch  
Sustaining Membership - Leonard Charles  
Strategic Plan Comm - Denny Behr (Chair)  
Newsletter - Leonard Charles  
Program Chairman - Kevin Ruppert  
Cert/Ed - Doug McDonell/Tim Trendt  
Frequency Coord - Chris Cain  
Chapter Liaison - Doug Smith



RICHARD WOOD  
PRESIDENT

BROADCAST  
MICROWAVE  
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COTTAGE GROVE, WI 53527 (608) 839-4075

## WBA SUMMER SESSION....

The WBA Summer Engineering Seminars proved to be beneficial from an education and relaxation standpoint for the nearly 40 Wisconsin Broadcast Engineers in attendance. Held in scenic Door County, the sessions included new, practical application lectures as well as informational updates on Broadcast Engineering today.

Chris Cain of WISC TV in Madison delivered an entire Computer Local Area Network (LAN) via a slide show depicting the hardware, high powered software, and tips on substantial cost savings thru

the use of a DOS based server and clone-type work stations.

Martin Horspool of the Harris Corporation described the latest in solid state VHF and MSDC-Clystron UHF transmitters for television.

What to do when a terrestrial microwave signal is looking into your C-band downlink at the same azimuth as the satellite you need was the subject of a case study by Terry Baun, Chief Engineer at WEZW-FM and WFMR-FM in Milwaukee.

Former FCC Field Inspector Garrett Lysiak delivered a paper on how the FCC determines your stations parameters before and during an inspection including diagrams and schematics on the methods he used as an inspector.

The remainder of the day was spent on a panel discussion headed up by Art Williams of WBAY-TV in Green Bay and Bill Emery of Varian/Continental Electronics. Among the "FCC Hot Topics" discussed by Ralph and Ben Evans of Evans & Associates were the FAA/FCC tower approval compromise, FCC fee restructuring and NRSC for AM. Dealing with "The Aging Broadcast Plant" included a 'how we do it' discussion by Pete Deets of WFHR/WVRW of Wisconsin Rapids and a Capitals spending analysis by Bill Hubbard of Wisconsin Public Broadcasting.

## NATL CONVENTION....

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, Oct 4 - 7  
\$125.00 registration for engineering conference, Friday lunch, Saturday dinner, Receptions, Proceedings.

FREE ENNES ENGINEERING WORKSHOPS BY FACTORY REPS WEDNESDAY, OCT. 3rd.

- 1) UNDERSTANDING AND MAINTAINING C-QUAM AM STEREO SYSTEMS
- 2) MEDIUM AND HIGH POWER FM TRANSMITTERS
- 3) RF TECHNOLOGY SESSION EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT RF FROM AM TO TV
- 4) S-VHS ENG AND PRODUCTION
- 5) EARTH STATION TECHNOLOGY
- 6) SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS
- 7) MANAGEMENT FOR ENGINEERS

**ST LOUIS CARPOOLING....**

Anyone interested in carpooling to the SBE national in St. Louis, contact Dave Gerisch at WMTV 15. (608) 274-1515.

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**JOHN CROOKS**  
Vice President

**CERTIFICATION....**

Future Exam Dates:  
SBE Convention October 6th  
November 9-19  
Contact Doug McDonell for info.

**LAST MONTH'S MEETING....**

Chapter 24 met on Tuesday night, July 10 at Alexander's Restaurant. The attendance was 18; all were SBE members; 15 were SBE certified.

Program Chairman Kevin Ruppert reported that the program for that evening would be an explanation and demonstration of packet amateur radio by chapter members Tom Weeden and Doug Smith. Kevin also announced that he encouraged any ideas and suggestions for upcoming programs. Sustaining Membership Chairman Leonard Charles reported that the newest chapter sustaining member is LDL Communications. Richard Wood's Skyline Communications of Cottage Grove also is a new sustaining member. Leonard reported that the number of sustaining members is now 15, and hopefully soon to be 16 with the renewal of a recent member who was dropped. Newsletter Editor Leonard Charles read two petitions for rulemaking in the amateur radio service which were brought to his attention after the July newsletter had been printed. Leonard also announced that he would possibly be putting a plea in the next newsletter to use someone's postage meter for sending out newsletters to aid him with the large amount of stamp licking done each month. A flyer was printed up by Doug McDonell and passed out, regarding the chapter's July picnic. Mr. Charles also announced that Fred Baumgartner, formerly of the Madison chapter, along with some Colorado broadcasters have developed plans for an alternative to the current EBS system. Since the information received from Mr. Baumgartner was too

long to publish in the newsletter, copies of it were distributed at the meeting.

Treasurer Fred Sperry reported that the chapter's account was now up to \$1,612.52, plus another \$50.00 received at the meeting from a sustaining member. Fred also pointed out that the chapter's new display case, which was brought to the meeting, contained numerous SBE pins which were available for sale at the meeting.

In old business, Chairman Steve Zimmerman reminded the chapter of the fish fry to be held at Doug McDonell's home on July 21. Steve also announced that David Gerisch was heading up a carpool to the SBE National Convention in St. Louis this fall. Anyone interested in carpooling should contact David Gerisch at WMTV. Chairman Zimmerman also distributed some packets of information regarding this fall's SBE Convention.

The meeting was concluded with a



roundtable of self introductions and then adjourned at 7:12 PM.

Program Chairman Kevin Ruppert introduced Don Borchert, of the University of Wisconsin. He spoke on the status of Madison's candelabra tower. After Don's presentation, chapter members Tom Weeden and Doug Smith presented an interesting program and demonstration of packet radio in the amateur radio service.

**CANDELABRA....**

Don Borchert from the University of Wisconsin made a guest speaking appearance at last month's meeting with blue prints of the Candelabra tower and associated buildings. According to Mr. Borchert, the bids for the 2.3 Million dollar project are due back August 15. The hope is to pour the pads and erect the buildings this fall making April 1991 the start of tower construction. Stacking of the steel would take two and a half months with operations to begin

September of '91. Specs include an elevator, wave guide for three UHF antennae on top, 12 foot face on each side, two communications platforms (700 and 1100 ft) with four antennae on each face at each level. Total physical height will be 1422 ft (2549 AMSL), 300 feet higher than the present facilities.

**THE CLINIC....**

The dates for this years "Broadcasters Clinic" are November 14-15-16. No other details are yet available.

**THE LEGALS....**

Info by Doug McDonell

The Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, Madison, WI, has filed for an extension of a CP originally granted 3-29-85 and due to expire 8-6-90. The CP is in conjunction with WHA Channel 21's pending move to the candelabra tower.

An application has been accepted for filing from Beaver Dam Broadcasting Company, Inc., of Beaver Dam, WI to make changes to the CP for WXRO 95.3MHZ. The change is an increase in ERP to 6KW.

Radio Lake Geneva Corp., of Lake Geneva, WI has applied for a CP on a new FM frequency of 96.1MHZ, 6KW ERP, 100 Meters H&V. 42 36 58 88 29 20

Tom Kwiatkowski of Lake Geneva, WI has applied for a CP on a new FM frequency of 96.1MHZ, 3KW ERP, 100 Meters H&V. 42 36 34 88 26 25

David A. Nelson of Lake Geneva, WI has applied for a CP on a new FM frequency of 96.1MHZ, 3KW ERP, 100 Meters H&V. 42 37 03 88 27 12

State Long Distance Co., of Lake Geneva, WI has applied for a CP on a new FM frequency of 96.1MHZ, 3KW ERP, 100 Meters H&V. 42 36 55 88 32 01

Lake Geneva Broadcasting, Inc., of Lake Geneva, WI has applied for a CP on a new FM frequency of 96.1MHZ, 3KW ERP, 100 Meters H&V. 42 36 32 88 26 20

**SONY**

Kevin Peckham  
Account Manager  
Broadcast Products Division

Sony Communications Products Company  
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Inspiration TV of Southern OR, Inc., of Madison, WI seeks voluntary assignment of CP to Trinity Christian Center of Santa, Inc. W33AX, Channel 33.

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Family Stations, Inc., of Madison, Etc, WI has been granted its application for an FM translator CP to serve Sun Prairie, WI on Channel 207 (89.3MHZ). TL 3 miles south of Morey Airfield, Dane, WI. 1Watt. Primary station is WMMK, Milwaukee, WI.(88.1MHZ)

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Listed under a public notice of permits cancelled is the CP for a new FM translator held by Family Stations, Inc., of Madison, ETC WI, licensed to cover Sun Prairie with a 1W transmitter 3 miles south of Morey Airfield in Dane.

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A Petition for Rulemaking has been filed by W.B. Prechtl, W3KO of Bridge City, TX to request to delete and phase out Double Side Band Full Carrier Amplitude Modulation (A3E) usage in the Amateur Radio Service.

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A Petition for Rulemaking has been filed by The American Radio Relay League Inc., for amendment of the Rules to eliminate the "sunset" provision in the present rule governing transmitter power of amateur stations using AM emissions.

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A Petition for Rulemaking has been filed by The Society for the Promotion of Amplitude Modulation, Potrero, CA, for amendment of the Rules to eliminate the "sunset" provision in the present rule governing transmitter power of amateur stations using AM emissions.

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A Petition for Rulemaking has been filed by Dale Gagnon, KW1I of Bow, NH, for amendment of the Rules to eliminate the



"sunset" provision in the present rule governing transmitter power of amateur stations using AM emissions.

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Douglas Sheldahl of Janesville, WI, has been granted a CP for a new UHF low power TV station on Channel 19 for the Janesville market. 500-506MHZ, minus offset, 9.56KW ERP, 1KW TPO, TL of Parker Drive in Janesville, Height of 78.9 Meters, 326 Meters RCAMSL.

## FCC NEWS....

Over the objections of WIVB-TV Buffalo and WROC-TV Rochester, the Commission has waived the multiple-ownership rule for a year, allowing Act III Broadcasting to purchase WUTV Buffalo. WUTV's coverage area overlaps that of WHF Rochester, also owned by Act III. WUTV has purchased the Fox affiliation and other programming of Buffalo's WNYB-TV, which will become a religious station.

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A law that would require closed-caption decoders in all TV sets of 13 inches or larger is expected to receive almost unanimous approval of the Senate.

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Soviet commentator Vladimir Posner

**RAM** Professional Audio Products

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--------------------------------------	--

(frequently seen on U.S. news programs as the spokesman of his government) has announced plans to create the first private TV station in the USSR.

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The House has now passed its version of a cable re-regulation bill. Provisions are generally similar to the Senate bill.

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In two separate cases, the Supreme Court has upheld the FCC's minority preference policies. Alan Shurberg had challenged the "distress sale" policy, under which the Faith Center, facing revocation of its license for WHCT-TV Hartford, Conn. was allowed to sell the station to minority-owned Astroline Communications. In another case, Metro Broadcasting appealed the grant of a channel 65 construction permit for Orlando, Fla. to Hispanic-owned Rainbow Broadcasting.

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The U.S. Court of Appeals has refused to require the FCC to demand public service plans from applicants for new broadcast stations. Action for Children's Television and the United Church of Christ had requested the action.

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The Bush administration's NTIA has restated its opposition to legislation that would require the government to turn over 200MHz of spectrum to the private sector.

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A reporter with KMOL-TV San Antonio has

been sentenced to six months in jail for withholding confidential notes sought by lawyers in a case involving the murder of a police officer.

---

Fox affiliates fear that the expansion

**Richardson Electronics, Ltd.**

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of Fox network programming could result in serious financial problems. Unless the Commission also waives the Prime Time Access Rule, Fox affiliates in the top 50 markets would be precluded from airing any off-network programming (for which many have already paid millions of dollars) between 6 and 7PM Central time. Fox affiliates would have to purchase new programming to fill this time period.

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Adoption of an automatic transmitter identification system for satellite uplinks has found approval from some uplinkers, and opposition from others. By March 1, 1991, all video uplinkers must install automatic IDers which will send, in Morse Code, on a 7.1MHz subcarrier, the uplinks call sign, a telephone number for the uplink control point, and a serial number for the ID device. Uplinkers currently using various systems in the vertical interval to identify their facilities have expressed opposition.

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NRSC emission compliance is now the law and although it's generally believed that a third or more of AM stations failed to make the deadline, an FCC's sweep of AM stations has had surprising results: Richard Smith of the Field Operations Bureau said 87% of 374 stations inspected were in complete compliance. Engineers in markets near FCC field offices report that most stations were inspected immediately after the deadline, with the inspectors specifically looking for compliance.

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Other inspectors visited 30 radio and TV stations in 5 markets, looking for violations of political advertising rules.


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A federal court in New York has upheld the government's right to prohibit ABC from indirectly paying the Cuban government \$6,500,000 for broadcast rights to the 1991 Pan-American Games.

ABC has vowed to appeal the ruling

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 New Commissioner Ervin Duggan has changed his mind and is lobbying his fellow commissioners to approve the sale of dark WAXA-TV Anderson, S.C. to WLOS-TV Asheville, N.C., who intends to use it as a relay station.

---  
 According to the Managing Director's office, cable re-regulation could



WISC-TV  
 7025 RAYMOND ROAD  
 MADISON, WI 53711  
 608-271-4321

require as many as 120 additional FCC employees and as much as \$22,000,000 in additional funding. The Commission is currently budgeted for 1,750 employees and \$107,500,000.

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 The Commission has unanimously voted to ban indecency on a 24-hour basis. In a related decision, WFBQ Indianapolis has been fined \$10,000 for a previously cited indecency violation.

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 The Senate has passed a bill which would restrict advertising in children's TV programming to 10.5 minutes per hour on weekends and 12 minutes per hour on weekdays. The restrictions would apply both to cable and broadcast stations.

---  
 Chairman Al Sikes has expressed disapproval for the cable re-regulation bills currently in Congress. He feels they tend more towards regulation than competition. Sikes has also said he favors modification of the financial interest and syndication regulations affecting the three networks.

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 15 radio stations in North Carolina and Florida, and a Texas cable system, have been sanctioned for failure to comply with equal-employment-opportunity regulations. 9 radio stations and the cable system were fined as much as \$18,000.

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 The Commission plans an inquiry into digital audio broadcasting, possibly beginning as soon as today. (Aug. 1)

---  
 The Bush administration has sent a report to congress claiming that TV Marti has demonstrated technical feasibility. TV Marti is broadcasting from a balloon tethered 10,000 feet above the Florida Keys on channel 13,


from 3:30AM to 6AM daily. (the 6AM signoff is required to avoid interference from a new Havana station on the same channel) The report claims that the station is putting a grade A signal into Havana, and that, despite jamming, about 273,000 households in the target area should be able to get TV Marti "at least occasionally".

**RADIO....**

by Stan Scharch, N9HMA

**DAB UPDATE:**  
 The CAB and CBC of Canada conducted digital audio broadcasting (DAB) tests in June using the European Eureka-147 system. FM/DAB A/B tests against standard FM were done in a mobile bus loaded with listeners using headsets. In areas where FM had serious multipath problems, DAB reportedly performed flawlessly.

---  
 Denon says it will have the "NAB Superadio" on store shelves by early 1991. At a price tag of \$495, the



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EMMONS ASSOCIATES, INC.

**KEITH EMMONS**

radio will have NRSC deemphasis, C-QUAM AM stereo, FMX stereo, and continuous AM/FM band tuning to include the 10 new AM channels. It is unclear whether this consumer hi-fi type product will be a tuner, or a tuner-amp (usually referred to as a receiver).

---  
 Plans by the NAB to use "IQ" as a trademark to designate NRSC compatible radios have been abandoned. "IQ" is a trademark owned by Bell Atlantic Corp. To them "IQ" is some sort of telephone credit card. Two alternative NRSC trademarks have been submitted to EIA for consideration.

ED NOTE: How about "NRSC"!

(Excerpts from Radio World)

**AMATEUR RADIO NEWS....**

by Tom Weeden, WJ9H

On July 27 the ARRL files its legal brief in the matter of the proposed reallocation of 220 to 222 MHz to private land mobile services, FCC PR

Docket 89-552, with the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. Oral arguments before the court are scheduled for November. The case is known as American Radio Relay League versus Federal Communications Commission and the United States of America.

---  
 People with disabilities now have more flexibility taking Morse Code exams. The FCC announced June 15 that volunteer examiners may be able to substitute a Morse sending test for the receiving test, to allow spoken instead of written copy, or to use a Morse recognition exam, provided there is a physician's statement attesting to the disability.

---  
 Four of the five astronauts scheduled to fly Shuttle Mission STS-37 will be amateur radio operators. Joining Ken Cameron, KB5AWP, will be Mission Specialists Linda Godwin and Jay Apt, and Flight Commander Steve Nagel, who recently passed their Technician Class exams. Cameron says the fifth crew member, Jerry Ross, has yet to take the plunge, but he "has some books on his desk."

---  
 A Texas district judge has dismissed a lawsuit against Mike Watson, WSUC, of Allen, Texas, after ruling that plat and deed restrictions in his subdivision did not apply to Amateur Radio antennas or towers. The suit was filed in May after neighbors complained that his towers and radio emissions "constituted a nuisance" and were alleged to violate the deed restrictions. The judge ruled that the tower was not considered a structure under the deed restrictions and that radio-frequency interference complaints were the FCC's jurisdiction and not his court's.

---  
 The cover story of this month's "Worldradio" is written by a ham who survived a lightning strike. Jerry Keisler, KB7IMX, says the January 28th storm was well underway when he realized

Milwaukee  
 Madison  
 Chicago

# VIDEO

## I M A G E S

Jim Braun  
 District Sales Manager  
 Video Images, Inc.  
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he should disconnect his equipment. He was holding the antenna connector which he had just disconnected from his 2 meter rig when the lightning hit. He reported the feeling of electricity on

his skin and seeing long sparks or streamers off the tips of the fingers of his free hand. Keisler was thrown against a wall and lay dazed for about a half hour, but was able to drive himself to a hospital for treatment. The moral: ground all antenna feedlines BEFORE the storm!

(From August Worldradio and QST magazines.)

**NEWS FROM NATIONAL....**

The Nominations Committee hereby notifies all voting members that October 1, 1990 is the date of the annual election and the official slate for this year's elections is as follows:

- President: Brad Dick
- Vice President: Richard Farquhar
- Secretary: Paul Lentz
- Treasurer: Bob Goza

Any SBE member in good standing may propose additional nominations up to 60 days prior to the election date by obtaining 10 signatures of members.

The NBC network has decided to hold its fall affiliate engineering meeting at the 1990 SBE convention in St. Louis.

The SBE has filed a request asking the FCC to prevent states and local authorities from licensing technical operators of broadcast and other FCC-regulated communication facilities.

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**CALL SIGN HISTORY....**

**MATCH THE CALLSIGNS**

Here's the answers to last months quiz:

**THEN:      NOW:**

- 9XM      ->    WHA
- WKOW   ->    WTSO
- WERU   ->    WMAD
- WISC   ->    WTDY (via WISM)
- WMAD   ->    WHIT (via WQOM)
- WHA-FM ->    WERN
- WYXE   ->    WMAD-FM
- WTTN-FM -> WTFX (for extra credit: -  
What was their old frequency?)

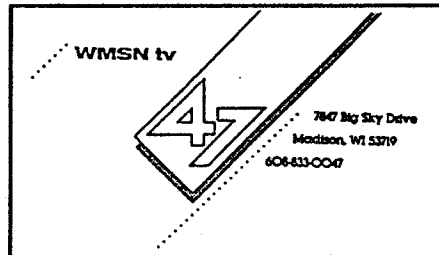
- WUCF   ->    WOLX (via WILV, WLVE)
- WVLR   ->    WMLI (via WSEY. Again,  
what was their frequency before 96.3?)
- WISC-FM ->    WNGN (via WISM-FM)
- WRVB   ->    WNUC
- WMFM   ->    WZEE (WORT is probably  
also an acceptable answer as WZEE took  
just the license. The equipment and  
building went to WORT.)
- WMAD-FM ->    WJQM-FM
- WFAW-FM ->    WSJY

(Editors note: Thanks to Doug Smith for providing the quiz AND answers.)

**NEW FM....**

(report by Doug Smith)

WKY-100.5 Columbus is on the air. "Key 100.5" (they also frequently give the real calls), with Satellite Music Network adult-contemporary/oldies.



Pretty good (but not local) quality here on the East Side; WMJB/Evansville is 8-10dB louder. Lots of community events, also a few (very few) auto dealer spots for Columbus. Their local inserts seem to be clipping SMN too. Their ID includes Sun Prairie.

**APPROPRIATE CALL....**

A fire struck Anchorage, Alaska radio stations KASH/1080 and KASH-FM 107.5 on June 3rd. Ironically, the most visible outside indication of the fire was the destruction of the "K" in the stations' call on the building's marquee, reducing their calls to ASH.

**DX REPORT....**

- Heard in Iowa City, Ia.:  
WHA      Madison  
WEKZ      Monroe
- Heard in Toronto, Ont.:  
WTTN      Watertown
- Heard in Woodland Park, Colo.:  
WNGN      Madison
- Heard near Ocala, Fla.:  
WOLX      Baraboo  
WXPR      Rhinelander

- WCOV-FM    Sparta
- Heard in River Ridge, La.:  
WKLH      Milwaukee
- WDOR-FM    Sturgeon Bay
- WJMC-FM    Rice Lake
- WIAL        Eau Claire

JEFFREY N. CLARINE  
CENTRAL REGION SALES MANAGER

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FAX # (607) 332-4705

- Heard in Stillwater, Okla.:  
WIXX      Green Bay  
WYCO      Wausau
- Heard in Clinton, Ont.:  
WDOR-FM    Sturgeon Bay  
WDUZ-FM    Green Bay
- Heard by a 12-year-old in Omaha:  
WFHR      Wis. Rapids  
WRDN      Durand  
WTTN      Watertown
- Seen in Toulon, Ill.:  
W65BT      Milwaukee LPTV  
W46AR      Milwaukee LPTV -
- Seen in River Ridge, La.:  
WFRV-TV    Green Bay
- Seen in Jacksonville, Fla.:  
WBAY-TV    Green Bay  
WFRV-TV    Green Bay  
WITI        Milwaukee

Finally, the big one!  
Heard in Antioch, Calif. (about 35 miles northeast of San Francisco):  
WPNE-FM    Green Bay  
This is over 1800 miles, and I have a tape of the Wis. Public Radio and WPNE-FM IDs; both are plainly readable and nearly full quieting!

**SCHOLARSHIP....**

The deadline for applications for the Chapter 24 scholarship to send someone to the SBE National Convention in October is now past. \$300 will be awarded to the person chosen. The lucky person and an alternate should be contacted soon!

**WINDOWS CAN WAIT....**

(a program review by Chris Cain)

To read the newspaper articles a month ago, one would have thought that you can do one of the following:

- 1). Throw your Macintosh away and get a PC.

2). Throw your PC compatible software away and convert to Windows applications.

After many exhaustive hours with giving Windows the best chance to

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convince me of the above, I have just zapped the WINDOWS programs off my hard disk. (All 5.5 Megabytes of it!)

Here are my reasons for the above decision:

1). An operating system that hogs out 5.5 Megabytes of your hard disk in these days! Get real! I know that many other operating systems can hog up as much as 10 Megabytes on your disk and support a windows type environment (but you get a 150 Megabyte hard disk with it!) Hey give me a break here! Let's face it, WINDOWS is a DOS shell. You still have to load and partition for DOS and WINDOWS runs on top of it. I defer this to the future. Maybe we will all have 200 Megabyte hard discs in five years to support DOS shells such as WINDOWS. Most of us don't have that sort of space now!

2). The lack of support for Expanded memory is unforgivable on Microsoft's part! If you read the manual and run the program in the "crippled" REAL mode some programs can use only a fraction of former non- WINDOWS Expanded memory. We're talking serious non-support of major programs:

Framework

LOTUS 1-2-3 (Pre 3.0 versions)

WordPerfect (5.1) - Which has just announced that it will forego a new version of their fabulous "office" system to adapt to the WINDOWS standard. (Support of Extended memory is missing from the WordPerfect statement which concerns me.)

3). The time required for WINDOWS to hand off to a non- WINDOWS application is unacceptable to me. My normal menu system takes about two seconds to run a program such as WordPerfect.

WINDOWS requires almost double the time starting and exiting! (I'm running a 20 MHZ/ 286.)

4). Building and Fighting with ICONS: The system defaults the width of program title ICONS to 75 spaces. Upon initial setup you end up with all your NON- WINDOWS applications appearing "crunched" together on the screen. After several hours in the manual and 20 minutes on hold with MicroSoft support I learned that a width of 200 is more like it for such non- WINDOWS applications such as WordPerfect, etc.

5). Paths & separate sub- directories: WINDOWS requires you to create many different .pif (program information files) to link a program such as dBASE with organized sub- directories. I deal without WINDOWS with a very simple/ fast menu system for dBASE. In WINDOWS you have to CREATE a separate dBASE ICON and sub- selections. This ALL takes SOOOO much extra time, not only to create the files but to run the programs, that this was the last straw for me.

SUMMARY:

WINDOWS will probably be the "platform" that many programs will be launched from in five years or so (as

Patrick Allickson  
Service Manager

**ROSCOR**

Roscor Wisconsin  
11350 W. Theodore Tractor Way  
West Allis, Wisconsin 53214  
Phone: 414-478-2600  
FAX: 414-478-4949

the WordPerfect announcement indicates) but for right now ask me why the privilege of pushing a mouse around should result in:

A). Loss of 5.5 Megabytes on your hard disk.

B). In- efficient operation of programs optimized for Expanded Memory.

C). Slow execution of programs.

D). Hogging RAM: Unless you run WINDOWS in STANDARD mode which restricts you to Extended memory only you will not have enough RAM to run all of your TSR's and programs!

E). The hassle of setting up very

complicated ICON/ SUB- WINDOWS when dealing with such popular programs such as dBASE III+.

I've been forcing myself to use WINDOWS 3.0 for a month now on my home 286/ PC. I feel I really gave it a fair chance to convert me to the



WINDOWS environment. The folks at Microsoft that assisted me were friendly and helpful.

Unfortunately, unless you're prepared to convert 100% to all WINDOWS compatible applications overnight, you're going to be disappointed with it for now.

I want to try WINDOWS again in six months, one year, two years. Let's give the rest of the PC compatible world a chance to accept and perhaps adapt WINDOWS as an operating platform!

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