

A Place In The Sun For WUNC

Our Barbara Willard, using a large hunk of this page today, tells the story of the student-operated FM radio station, WUNC. We can add little to her reporting, except to wish WUNC all the good fortune that can come to educational stations — continued high quality programming, a higher tower, more power, and a place, someday, in the financial sun. It is unthinkable that a University enterprise as meaningful and beneficial to the area as WUNC should continue to operate without a formal budget.

Thousands of dollars are being spent on WUNC's educational big brother, WUNC-TV (with which WUNC has no connection) and it is reasonable to hope that some money may soon drift down to the radio station, WUNC, as anyone who has ever listened to its informative, engaging programs will testify, will put it to good use.

Carolina Front — Let's Have A Reasonable Exam Schedule

Louis Kraar

WHY CAN'T the University have a more reasonable approach to exams?



As the semesterly purge draws near and students begin to notice the exam schedules, one thing becomes ominously clear. Classes end on Thursday, and exams start Friday morning. There simply isn't enough time for students who have a Friday morning exam to prepare.

Last spring I mentioned this shortcoming to an administration member. His answer was that since the exam schedule is released so early, students can plan their study for those early exams.

What that administrator did not realize was that during this last week professors have to fly in order to finish their course material. The press of daily assignments is heavier, and there is little time for exam study.

★ WHAT THE University really needs is a week for reading and studying between the last day of classes and the first day of exams.

The stock administration answer for that is that students wouldn't use the week for study. But this overlooks the fact that as many would study as do under the present system.

Assuming that exams are a necessary part of academic life and that they give students a good look at what they've learned in a course, it only seems logical that they should be given time to prepare for them.

This reporter would like to plead "consolidation." That's what the administration used when they argued for Saturday classes. State and WC have Saturday classes, and Chapel Hill doesn't—that was their argument.

Well, over at our sister institution in Greensboro, the gals don't start exams until the Monday after their last classes on Saturday. This gives them a day between the end of classes and exams—a day more than Chapel Hill gets, a good day for studying.

But soon exams will be over, and students will quit complaining—until spring. Must be a heartening thought for the sloopy-thinking men who draw up the exam schedule.

★ SIX WC girls got bored one day last week, so they threw a cocktail party in the gameroom of Elliott Hall, WC's student union.

The girls hurried to town in the early afternoon to purchase cocktail glasses at 19 cents each. Then they scurried back to their dorms to dress in slick cocktail dresses and fur capes.

After the usual gab of a cocktail party and a round or two of drinks, the group called it quits for the day. Everyone agreed that it was the best cocktail party they'd ever been to at WC.

Incidentally, the drinks were cheaper than the 19-cent glasses. The girls had cokes.

★ AFTER YEARS of advertisements with movie stars proclaiming the quality of products and services, the ad hucksters have finally turned back to the old masters of words.

Take the current issue of "The New Yorker," for example. Rand-McNally, a company that maps the world, has a writer called Thomas Wolfe doing the copy. Actually, it's a quote from a book called "Of Time And The River," and the passage is most appropriate.

The March of Dimes used a full-page ad with copy written by poet A. E. Housman. And WQXR, the New York Times radio station, quotes Alphonse Daudet in its ad.

Who knows, you might even make the ad pages these days if you write a great work.



CUE!
...engineer Jim Hurley, seated at WUNC's control panel, cues up an "Evening Masterwork" transcription.



BACKSTAGE
...announcer Carl Kasell, at Hill Hall. WUNC broadcasts nearly all Hill music transcriptions.



FILES
...Bob Carswell chooses a long-playing record for a WUNC show.



OPERA
...Norman Cordon, who presents "Let's Listen To Opera" weekly, explains a script note to Assistant Manager Carl Venters.

And Without A Budget

Students Run Campus FM Station, WUNC

By Barbara Willard

"FM is to radio like stereophonic sound is to movies," according to Carl Venters, radio major and assistant manager of WUNC. This radio station, whose studio is situated in the basement of Swain Hall, started operations in November, 1952, with little fanfare, but it has, nevertheless, gained an enthusiastic audience.

John Young, station manager, summarized the aim of the station as "an attempt to provide a broadcast service not usually available."

WUNC is a non-commercial, educational FM station, licensed to the University of North Carolina. For those many students who inquire as to why it is not an AM station, there's a simple explanation. The Federal Commerce Commission has set aside certain FM channels for non-commercial, educational use. FCC regulations for these stations are lax in that they can operate any hours during the day or night on these channels. AM stations, on the other hand have minimum day time and night time hours.

WUNC is entirely student-staffed and operated. One half to two thirds of its staff is in the Department of Radio and the rest in other fields. Mr. Young says the students "are not just figureheads; they run the station."

No Budget

This station has many different and outstanding features, but perhaps the most unusual thing about it is that it has no budget.

The idea for a University-owned radio station was first conceived in 1949, and the chance to put the idea to work came in 1950. In that year, WMIT, the powerful FM station on top of Mt. Mitchell, offered to sell to the University its stand-by transmitter for \$1,000.

The administration had no objection to the purchase, nor did it have any money for it. The Communication Center, a non-academic production organization on campus, bought the transmitter and has since taken care of some pressing needs. Other than that, there's no budget.

Mr. Young says, "We went on the air quickly, through the maze of early problems... We kept it a modest effort; so that what we did, we would do well."

Under FCC regulations, "anything that educates" is an educational station; so a student-staffed FM station can produce almost any kind of program. Since the students themselves have all the administrative and opera-

tional duties, their work and experience is an educational function of the station.

An alumnus donated 200 12-inch standard 78 RPM record albums of classical music. These were the record library for the first year. The first operational period gained a small audience and little response for the station.

Local Programs

Two improvements were made in 1953, in the form of local programs and additions to the record library.

In that year, such programs as Chancellor House's "Tar Heel Voices," YMCA programs, broadcasts from departments and sports broadcasts, became a part of the broadcast time, "at 91.5 on your FM dial."

RCA Victor agreed to let them have its record service, usually offered only to commercial stations. This included every RCA release in 1953, 100 12-inch record programs for only \$50. It was more than \$1,000 worth of records. Of course, \$50 might as well be \$1,000 when there was no money at all.

Finally, Jinx Robertson, a student in the School of Journalism at that time, provided the money for the service.

Increased Power

This year, still without a budget, the station has made forward steps.

They have brought to their audience outstanding special events programs, including Rise Stevens, Alec Templeton, North Carolina Symphony Orchestra, Aldous Huxley, Estes Kefauver and many other events. The broadcast of the First Piano Quartet was the first radio broadcast of this group. In years past, Bennett Cerf, Robert Frost and other have given programs over WUNC.

An increase in power from a 1600 watt transmitter to a 16,000-watt transmitter is an important advancement for the station. This new transmitter is a gift from WBT, WBTV in Charlotte, owned by Jefferson Standard Broadcasting Company.

Mr. Young says application has been made to FCC for permission to use the new transmitter, and there should be no difficulty in getting permission.

During broadcast time, which is seven days a week, 7 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., the station can be received on any FM radio within a 20-mile radius. With certain antennas, listeners within a 35-mile area receive WUNC, and it has been received as far away as Mt. Mitchell. The new

transmitter will provide a stronger signal for the area.

Need Height

The present antenna is only 78 feet off the ground, and it should be at least 500 feet. Mr. Young explained that FM travels in a straight line and will not bend over the horizon. A higher antenna would give a clear signal at a 60 to 70 mile distance.

This year Columbia offered WUNC their record service, including all classical and popular LP releases, for \$60.

To secure this valuable service, the staff contributed the \$60 themselves. This staff receives no compensation but experience for their services. They are part of a tight organization that carries out all work involved in operating a radio station.

The students stay here during short holidays to keep the station operating. They stopped only from Dec. 22—Jan. 2, during the Christmas holidays.

Mr. Young explained that each fall it is just like starting a new station. A new staff has to be selected and trained as it works.

The student manager is appointed by Mr. Young and the former student manager. The student manager then appoints the department heads. Auditions for staff members are held, and students are interviewed and screened for the jobs.

Venters says, as student manager, he has learned "good taste and good judgment, plus the administrative duties of operating a radio station."

Campus Coverage

The big step, this year or next, Mr. Young says, will be to "add to the present WUNC organization a carrier current or 'wired wireles' transmitter, similar to the set up at Duke, Wake Forest or State. This would give campus coverage that could be picked up on any receiver."

With this transmitter, the station could carry on double-programming, continuing their usual high quality programs and carrying also a lighter program. The present staff of about 35, however, is not large enough for double-programming. It may still be possible to install this type of transmitter so that the present programming could be picked up on any receiver on campus.

WUNC produces a wide variety of shows, from Phillips Russell's news commentary to



WHEELS
...Operations Manager Joe Young (left) and Traffic Manager Butch Culbreth (right) talk things over with Venters.

Evening Masterwork, a program of classical music from 10:05 to 11:30 p. m., "not only played by but bought by the students." FM, which is static-free, lends itself to high quality, especially in music.

Aside from locally-produced shows and special events broadcasts, programs are provided through the British Broadcasting Corporation, the French Broadcasting System, the Canadian Broadcasting System and other foreign companies, including ones in Belgium and the Netherlands.

The National Association of Educational Broadcasters, the NAEB, provides programs through a tape network.

'Glowing Reactions'

Although WUNC receives relatively few letters, Mr. Young says in over 300 letters there has been no protest, but only "glowing reactions." These letters, though few in number, come from an enthusiastic audience of people who enjoy quality in radio listening.

WUNC, Mr. Young and the students who carry on the work have succeeded in their aim, "an attempt to provide a broadcast service not usually available."

Can't Do That To George

The Greensboro Daily News

Somebody in Chapel Hill got bit by a collie, as we understand it, and so the police picked up a gentle old collie named George with the idea that George's execution would serve as an example to other dogs.

Immediately, of course, George had his defenders. Among them was Paul Smith, owner of the Intimate Bookshop where George used to browse. He (Mr. Smith that is) wrote the Chapel Hill Weekly:

"It seems to me that something rather fine about the kindly, humane tradition of Chapel Hill is about to get kicked around in the matter of George, the Campus Collie.

"For four years the bookshop has been one of the stops on George's rounds. I've seen him pushed and accidentally stepped on, but I've never seen him bite anyone. He is not a biting dog.

"But he's in clink. Somebody was bitten by a collie, and George was picked up because, being the friendly sort of dog he is, he was the easiest collie to pick up. Now, as I understand it, even the person who was bit says it wasn't George who bit him. But, says the chief of police, George must go."

Well, all we can say to the Chapel Hill police force (and that goes for the mayor and board of aldermen too) is that they better look out. They can't do that to George.

Old George's way of life may have fallen into the sere, the yellow leaf, but that which should accompany old age, as honor, love, obedience, troops of friends, he still may look to have. Old George has got it all over Macbeth. They'd better let him out so that he can pursue his accustomed rounds including a look-in on the literary life at the Intimate Bookshop. Otherwise their name is mud.

YOU Said It: Tarnation Editor Replies

Editor: Hail, protectors of literature, gatherers of waste paper and scrambled Eggheads. You have emerged from the rank-and-file and have voiced your views on the "Censoring Of Our Boy Ed."

We didn't mind your accusations of slander, but when you said that our jokes get poorer and poorer we got mad, real mad. No matter how much you criticize us, the yolk's on you, boy. You bought a copy didn't you?

Incidentally, can you quote me the price of Eggheads in China?

Reuben Leonard
Editor of Tarnation

Defense

Editor: I wish to take exception to the letter

from Bill Sisk in your YOU Said It column this week.

As a freshman at Carolina, I am impressed by the editorials, articles and columns in The Daily Tar Heel and I expect to be equally impressed by other worth when I graduate. I do not know of any other college paper which gives its campus as good coverage or as intelligent writing as your newspaper does. I certainly did not expect to find a paper with features like Herblock and Pogo when I came to the University, either. And the sports page, despite its little size because of too many ads on some days, is interesting and readable.

Just keep up the good work and don't let sarcastic letters like Bill Sisk's deter you.

John Gray

'Yeah, Uh Huh, Sounds Fine - - -'



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