

**Request Lines Jammed**

# "Communicate For A Date" Is WGIV's Hottest Program

By Loretta Manago  
Post Managing Editor  
"If you're free and single and want to mingle call 570-1600." From 6:15 to 7 p.m., Mondays through Fridays that's the line Don Cody is repeating on WGIV as he hosts the station's newest and hottest program, "Communicate For A Date."

In that brief 45 minute time span, the request line is jammed with anxious callers, who are prepared to give detailed descriptions about themselves and about the kind of person that they're looking for.

One woman calls in; she's interested in finding a guy who stays in trouble, but knows how to get out of it. Another caller, a guy, wants to meet a woman who weighs at least 250 pounds. Normally, each caller gives his or her telephone number out while the show is in progress; therefore, if the person they are looking for is listening to the radio they will have the number to call.

For dj Don Cody the program has exceeded his wildest imagination. "The response is tremendous. Twenty minutes before the program goes on the air, the request line is already busy. People are calling in from all walks of life - Duke Power employees, NCNB, the textile industries, the delivery industry, the Post office - you name it. We have callers from an age range of 19 (which is the minimum age set by Cody) and up unto 60 years of age."

Cody admits that "Communicate For A Date" had its birth quite by accident. "I had just come back from the area and one night while I was on the air playing Cameo's 'Living the Single Life' I announced that if there were any women who were single and wanted to mingle, that they should call the station." Within a



**Don Cody**  
.....Host of "Hot" program

matter of minutes Cody said the telephone switchboard lit up and calling in were women who were giving a basic description of themselves. This spontaneous reaction gave Cody the idea for the program.

"When it was decided to do 'Communicate For A Date,' I knew that I had to have some rules. There was no limit on the number of times one could call. I wanted people to be at least 19 years of age, single and they had to have the understanding that if they gave their telephone number out over the air then they would be doing it at their own risk." Once setting those guidelines the program initially aired from 6:30 until 7 p.m. The enormous response the program received necessitated that another 15 minutes be added.

Pleased at the obvious

success of the program, Cody stressed that "Communicate For A Date" serves a viable community service. "I think it's also education, in the sense that you learn what men and women are looking for in a mate. I've found out that young men prefer older women and visa versa and that men don't like for women to wear a lot of makeup."

Looking at the age demographics, Cody noted that from the age of 25 to 35 more women call in and from the ages of 19 to 25 more men call the program. But Cody also noted that even though more women call in as a whole, the men are taking down the numbers and some are even taping the show. One woman who had called in to the show three times stopped by the radio station to let Don Cody know about the results she re-

ceived, which included boxes of candy, flowers and an overflow of calls.

Cody commented that it's very common for callers to inform him of their satisfaction or dissatisfaction with the show or of the results they got. He also assured that each caller got at least 10 responses.

At this point, my question was "Sure a person may get 10 calls, but how many of those calls are from people who are serious about meeting members of the opposite sex?"

I decided that I would find out for myself, by going on the program. Having made this decision, my first step was to write down a list of criteria for myself and the type of person that I would be interested in meeting. I decided not to use my first name, but my middle one which is Denise. Also in the description of myself I said I was a free-lance writer; I was 28 years of age, 5'2", 114 pounds, and attractive. I wanted to stay as close to the truth as possible. I would not give my telephone number on the air, but would leave it at the station, figuring that anyone who would go to the trouble of calling the station for my number, might not be a total "fruitcake."

With the assistance of one of my co-workers we came up with a detailed description of what type of guy I'd like to meet. On that I decided to stay close to the truth, too, listing those traits that I admired in a man. What we came up with is as follows; He had to be warm, sincere, ambitious, a one-woman man, a good conversationalist and employed. As far as a physical - description brown to dark brown complexion, neat appearance, 5'10" minimum in height and be between the ages of 28 and 38.

The night I called in I

was the third caller. To say that I was nervous is an understatement. In describing the guy I was interested in meeting I forgot to list the physical description thereby, only giving the character traits. Cody also caught me off guard when he asked me "What would a night out on the town with Denise be like?" And me, a person who is never at a loss for words could only think of one, so I replied, "Spontaneity."

Having bombed like that, I was only too glad to get off the phone. Nor did I figure that anyone would respond to "Nervous Nellie." At 7:05 p.m. the phone rang. The young man on the other end of the phone said he had heard me on the air. He described himself as six feet tall, light brown complexion, medium build and one who loved to read, go to the movies and play backgammon. As a matter of fact he wanted to meet me at the movies and perhaps come over to play a game of backgammon that night. While talking with him the phone rang again. Caller two had also listened to the program and was responding to it. I clicked back to the first caller, told him I'd get back to him, but never did.

The second caller described himself as 6'1", brown-skinned and he had a curl, long in length. He said he merely wanted conversation and so I proceeded to question him about various things. I asked him why he called. He said I sounded interesting. He also said that he had never called before and that he very rarely listened to the program. He did not feel that "Communicate For A Date" was a good way to meet someone and he also stressed

that he would have never called a lady who gave her number out over the air. After having talked with him for while, caller number two warned me that some of the guys that would call that night would be after only a one night stand and said that I should be careful. I thanked him for the advice and for calling.

My third caller fit the physical description that I had intended to give, with the exception of his age. He was three years younger. Although he was working at the hospital he had plans of going into auto body repair. Later in the conversation I told him that he didn't sound as if would have any problems in finding a woman and he agreed with me, by adding that he "could find a woman, but not a good one." With the call to me being his first time responding to the program, he admitted that he was nervous, but that he liked the way I sounded and decided to give it a try.

I got my last caller two days after I had gone on the program. This caller was the only older caller I received, his age being 40. All of the other callers were younger than me. He said that he decided to wait until then to call, to let the lines cool down. Like the rest, he thought I sounded interesting and decided to call.

In assessing the past few days, I had to admit that not one person was offensive or impolite. While I admitted that the program was unorthodox, who knows, someone just might meet Mr. or Ms. Right.

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