



Staff photo by L. C. Barbour  
Pat Peek, one of WXYC's student disk-jockies, reads a public service announcement over the air in the radio station's studio in the basement of the Carolina Union.

# WXYC-FM 89.3

By BECKY BURCHAM  
Staff Writer

The purpose of a student organization is to fill the student's needs. The campus radio station, WXYC, fulfills that purpose, even though at times it appears that they will not fulfill their own operational needs.

Before becoming WXYC-FM, the station was known as WCAR. As WCAR, a carrier current was used. Having a carrier current meant only the dorms could pick up the station. Funding for the station came from student government and through commercial advertising. The hours of operation were 6 a.m. til midnight.

It didn't take long before the workers at WXYC discovered that they were falling short of their goal of supplying all of the students' radio needs.

However, it took a considerable amount of time and work to change the station's output.

Through a general student body referendum in 1973, the station began to file for an FM license. Due to a delay caused by federal paperwork, WXYC did not begin construction of FM facilities until July of 1976.

The first stages for the station were difficult. As a new organization it had trouble getting established. The Media Board lacked the time to give ready approval and advice to the group.

Program director Mike Hyman explained why the station left the control of the media board. "The Media Board handles almost all the other communication organizations. It can't satisfy our current needs. We're the only campus organization that has the federal government as an overseer, so we need special attention."

## UNC's student radio station fills a broadcasting abyss

The Student Educational Broadcasting (SEB) now owns, operates and officially controls WXYC. SEB's sole purpose is to see to the problems of the radio station, thus legal and business decisions are made more rapidly.

We need is one second class engineer." The station's format consists of progressive rock. The musical director, David Speigner, makes a conscious effort to avoid the top forty sound. "The students already have a wide market for

*"The students already have a wide market for the disco, top forty sound. We want to give them something new, something good."*

Raising funds was another problem. Due to the Umstead Act, which prevents university funded organizations from competing with local merchants, WXYC could not receive grants from local merchants. Thus, the station had to rely on funds from the Campus Governing Council (CGC). The funding of \$5,951 looked meager when compared to other North Carolina student stations. East Carolina's station, which still operates on a carrier current, had a budget of \$30,000. The University of North Carolina at Charlotte's station, which only operates 8 hours a day, 5 days a week was funded \$25,000.

The station has come a long way since the days of WCAR. Don Moore, station manager summed up the advancements when he said, "WXYC is the only student station in North Carolina that is on the air 24 hours a day. It was one of three student stations to operate during the summer. The station no longer runs commercials. Also, we have five first class chief engineers, all students. All

the disco, top forty sound," he said. "We want to give them something new, something good."

In addition to music, the station also provides news and 15 hours a week in public affairs programming. Most of the public affairs deal with student and community oriented issues since it is a student station. Some of the programs in the past have dealt with registration, rape, the water shortage and local consumer issues. The staff produces the programs. This fall the station will start a new service, Organizational Access. Organizational Access will give time to special interest groups.

The WXYC staff consists of UNC students who have a sincere interest in radio. While many of the workers are RTVMP majors, it is not required that a student be majoring in the field to acquire a position at WXYC. Work is done on a volunteer basis; anyone interested in working should check with Mike Hyman at the WXYC station, located in the basement of the Carolina Union.

## Three strikes—and not out for 'dead man'

By JANE BOUTWELL  
Staff Writer

Herman Waiter (pseudonym) doesn't look like someone who has two death certificates; he is a tall, muscular man with wispy brown hair, colorless skin and analytical eyes — and very much alive.

Yet, since his birth in 1944, he has been pronounced dead three times.

Waiter is one of the more lucky victims of encephalitis — lucky, because his "deaths" were not permanent.

The disease reached epidemic proportions in Houston in 1964, and many people died from the sleeping sickness, most commonly known as St. Louis encephalitis. The carriers of the disease are the female Culex tarsalis and Culex pipiens mosquitoes.

Waiter explained that although he survived the epidemic, he will never be rid of the disease. "There is no cure for encephalitis," he said. "All that the doctors can do is try to relieve the symptoms and keep the symptoms from killing you." The symptoms are drowsiness, fever, chills and nausea.

At the time of the Houston epidemic, Waiter recalled, "I wouldn't accept what was happening to me. I worked right up to the time I collapsed. By the time I got into the hospital, the disease was acute and I was in bad, bad, shape."

Waiter was unconscious for six weeks. On three different occasions, Waiter's doctors could find no evidence that he was alive and so they pronounced him dead. One time he showed signs of life in the morgue and only an observant mortician saved him from a "permanent death." The third time he "died," Waiter's physician refused to sign the death certificate. Waiter chuckled about this and said the physician told the doctor on duty to roll Waiter's bed into a corner and he'd be fine in 45 minutes.

He shifted in his chair. "When I came out and understood what had happened — when I had been told about the death, then I felt a very powerful sense of responsibility — that I should have died and didn't," he explained, "and if I had been pronounced dead and I still wasn't dead, then that was God's way of telling me that he had something very special for me to do, and I was not to ass around — I was to get on with it."

"I don't know what kept me going," said Waiter, " — probably obstinacy." He

laughed, then became serious. "I was a very strong person. What kept me going was probably a fluke type thing and the fact that I was in extremely good shape — so, I survived when other people didn't."

He said that his effect on the doctors and nurses in the hospital was awesome. "There was considerable deference to me," explained Waiter. "Matter of fact, I'm sure I became a pain in the ass because I took advantage of that. I got just about everything I wanted — and I don't know how much of that was from being spooked by me and how much of it was from thinking 'Oh my god! We could have killed a person by being premature about our judgments!'"

Waiter has had a "hangover" from

encephalitis ever since. About twice a year he has headaches which gradually increase in intensity until they are incapacitating.

There was one positive effect of Waiter's "death": he was able to legitimately avoid going to Viet Nam. He was aided by a Texas state law which says that no government document can be destroyed. Because his death certificates could not be destroyed, an addendum saying that he wasn't dead needed to be made for each death certificate.

When Waiter was drafted he reported for induction as he was supposed to. However, he refused to get on the bus with the other inductees and begin the life of a soldier.

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## Rape Crisis Center suited to individual needs

A rape victim can get help from a 24-hour rape crisis program operated by the North Carolina Memorial Hospital emergency room.

A special rape crisis team of nurses and physicians are there to determine whether any physical damage has been done and provide treatment, give the victim medication to prevent pregnancy and venereal disease, collect evidence in case the victim decides to prosecute, provide emotional support and counseling, and if necessary arrange for follow-up care.

Members of the crisis team tailor the program to suit the needs of each victim, but nothing is done without the victim's consent. The victim is not forced to accept any of these services, said Jeanne Peace, RN, coordinator of the program.

"The emergency room team is there to offer the rape victim care, support and professional advice, but the woman alone decides what happens to her. She is in complete control of the emergency room experience and nothing is done without her consent. We do not notify the police or anyone else unless the woman wants us to."

The rape crisis center has helped to provide "blind" reports to the police, Captain Lindy Pendergrass, a Chapel Hill

police detective, where all the details of the crime — except the victim's name — are provided.

The crisis center was established three years ago to help rape victims 16 years old and over.

Information on specific services offered by the emergency room rape crisis program can be obtained by calling 966-1313.

—MEL RATH

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