

New, more powerful WUNC-FM is back on the air

By Pete Ivey

High quality broadcasts via frequency modulation radio became available this week to 1,500,000 North Carolina people living within 100 miles of Chapel Hill.

A boost in wattage, from 15,000 to 50,000, made possible by a new transmission system—a \$20,000 gift by Merck, Sharpe & Dohme Drug Co.—brings static-free broadcasting programs of superior cultural and public-service value to North Carolinians. Owners of FM sets may tune in at 91.5 on the radio dial.

The best programs from over the world are available. British Broadcasting System (BBS) musical, lecture and other events will be heard, as well as network programs from Canada, France and Israel. The United Nations Radio ties into WUNC.

Sunday, for example, WUNC brings a program of classical music, "The Dinner Hour" at 6 p.m.; BBC program, "Canterbury Hour" at 7; a broadcast from Palestine, "Vistas of Israel" at 7:15. There will be a concert at 8. News will be interspersed throughout the evening.

Outstanding programs on Monday and Tuesday evenings include "Masterworks from France" at 7 p.m., Monday; and "A Roundup of British Weeklies"

'Scouting Skies' is the new show at Planetarium

"Scouting the Skies," a program designed to depict the rewards of family participation in the study of astronomy, opened at the Morehead Planetarium here Tuesday night. It will run through Feb. 12.

The demonstration also is the Planetarium's annual tribute to Boy and Girl Scouts at this season.

"We want to help all youngsters and Scouts who are interested in obtaining merit badges in astronomy," Planetarium Director Anthony F. Jenzano said today. "At the same time we are providing in this new program some very elementary but basic ideas that might well be used by teachers and parents and all those who are trying to help youth understand the sky."

For instance, bright stars and constellations now in view are described and named, and the astronomical concept of sizes, speeds and distances of planets is explained. In addition, the phenomena of horizon, sunrise, sunset and circum-polar stars is detailed.

The program also highlights and reproduces the approaching most peculiar combination of the planets which will be visible only out in the Pacific Ocean on Feb. 5.

"A total eclipse of the Sun will reveal the visible planets of Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn grouped with the moon around the constellations of Capricorn and Aquarius," Jenzano explained.

at 10:15 Monday; "Dutch Light Music" Tuesday at 7:15. On Wednesdays at 10:30 p.m. "Some Come to Sing," a folk music program featuring local talent will regularly be heard.

The new WUNC antenna has been installed at the top of the 825-foot WUNC-TV tower on Terrell's mountain, seven miles west of Chapel Hill and 1500 feet above average terrain level. The pharmaceutical firm of Merck, Sharpe, and Dohme contributed equipment expenses and paid for the costs incurred in the changing of transmitter sites. WDNC in Durham gave the station a microwave transmitter and receiver set which allows WUNC to send their signal from the Swain Hall offices on the campus to the Terrell mountain site without the use of telephone wires.

WUNC programs will be received in these cities along the

100-mile periphery: Kannapolis, Concord, Lumberton, Kinston, Greenville, Elizabeth City, Roanoke Rapids, Emporia, Va., Martinsville, Va., and other North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia cities.

WUNC is operated by the Department of Radio, TV, University of North Carolina, of which Earl Wynn is chairman. Dr. Robert Hilliard, assistant professor in the department, is the director of radio. The station is staffed entirely by students, about 45 of them, with Reno Bailey, from Clifside, N. C., a senior, as station manager. He has organized the station into twelve departments, all headed by students.

Programming will concentrate on classical music, drama and documentary films, and news and activities of the UNC campus, colleges, schools, institutions and divisions.

Station Manager Bailey stated that soon the WUNC station may be able to receive live programs also from the Educational Radio Network. The ERN is composed

of educational stations from Canada to Washington, D. C. A link from Washington to Chapel Hill the next year or so.

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