

The current long-hair. . . . trend among the younger generation is not revolutionary, but a "renaissance," according to a New York labor arbitrator, because "longer hair is the traditional mode for men while short hair has historically been the exception."

As reported in the *New York Times*, the arbitrator, Theodore W. Kheel, made the statement in a decision in which he ruled that New York City bus drivers could wear beards and sideburns.

Among the points made:

"All over the world, flowing beards have stood for wisdom, strength and fatherliness.

"In the early civilizations of the Mediterranean, the great men of the mind were all bearded: Abraham, Moses, Jesus, Aristotle, Plato.

"In fiction and folklore, this tradition has been carried over to such varied characters as King Arthur, Father Time and Santa Claus.

"When artists have drawn the face of God, it has often been with a flowing, white beard. The creator was painted this way by Michelangelo in the Sistine chapel.

"Uncle Sam is always drawn with a mustache and a little goat-like chin beard."

He didn't mention Blackbeard the Pirate. -S. S.

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**J-School's Two-Way
Radio Network
Provides NEW DIMENSIONS
FOR YOUNG REPORTERS**

By Allan K. Risdon

A Missouri football fan needed swift medical attention when he collapsed in a crowd leaving Memorial Stadium one Saturday afternoon this fall.

Medical personnel in the stadium knew nothing of his plight, and because of the crowd, it would be some time until they could be notified to send help.

But Charles W. Kyd, *Columbia Missourian* reporter and senior journalism major, saw the man slup to the ground and quickly called his newspaper with a portable two-way radio. The *Missourian* relayed the message to police, and within five minutes an ambulance was whisking the stricken man to the hospital.

The radio Kyd used was one of four federally licensed units *Missourian* student reporters and photographers regularly carry on assignments to communicate with their editors in the coordination of daily news coverage.

Identified by the call sign KLX-247, the *Missourian's* private radio network went on the air at 8:02 a.m. June 19, 1969, according to its first log entry. Known as a "press-relay" station, KLX-247 operates on 173.225 Megahertz (MHz), a frequency authorized by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for exclusive newspaper use. It is neither a citizen's band nor amateur radio channel.

The radio system was financed by a \$5000 grant in September 1968 from the Annenberg School of Communications, Philadelphia, Pa., and Walter Annenberg, president of the school, in honor of Merrill Panitt, who attended the School of Journalism



Journalism student Susan Pope operates one of the four portable units which connects with the master-control unit manned by city editor John Boyd (left). Dean Earl F. English has access to a 110-watt transceiver in his car.

1934-38 and is now editor of *TV Guide*, an Annenberg publication.

Assisting persons in distress and helping in other emergency situations, of course, is not the only value — and is not the primary job — of KLX-247.

"It has added a new dimension to the teaching of reporting," says Dr. Earl F. English, dean of the School of Journalism. He believes the radios "encourage imagination and develop observation." Students seem to be more on the lookout for stories and photos because they can call the instructor to ask what he wants.

"The radios build a closer liaison between the reporter and photographer on the scene of a news event and the office, thus extending the influence of the instructor," according to J. P. Norman, a *Missourian* city editor. Norman says KLX-247 is particularly useful for photographers on assignment, so they can learn of additional jobs without returning to the office. And the same holds for reporters.

John H. Boyd, Jr., also a *Missourian* city editor, stresses the importance of KLX-247 for fast-breaking stories. He recalls a fatal auto mishap November 13 on Route 63 in Prathersville, about six miles from Columbia. News of the accident was received on a Missouri State Patrol monitor receiver in the newsroom, and immediately a reporter and photographer were dispatched to the general location.

Of the four portable radios students carry on assignment, two are 10-watt units and two are two-watt. The latter have a normal range of two or three miles, but occasionally their signals have been received from Elkhurst Regional Airport, about 15 miles from Columbia.

The 10-watt units are rated at five miles, but they're routinely used by *Missourian* statehouse reporters in Jefferson City to converse with the newsroom, about 30 miles.

Heart of the system, in the University Medical Center, is a 110-watt base transmitter with a manufacturer guaranteed transmission range of 27 miles, paired with a 21-foot antenna on the building's water tower. Total height from ground to antenna tip is 170 feet.

Linking the transmitter with the system's master control console in the *Missourian* is an ordinary telephone line. A red extension phone in the journalism administration office and a green one in the photography department also are tied into the network.

Supplementing the four portable units are a 110-watt transceiver in Dean English's car and one in the automobile of Robert W. Haverfield, journalism placement director. A third mobile unit, rated at 65 watts, is in newswriting instructor Hal Lister's auto.

Haverfield, chairman of the journalism committee responsible for the operation of KLX-247, explains that the mobile units extend additional faculty supervision to students on assignment. Mobile units on the road also can relay messages from portable sets to the base station when the portables are out of range.

Aside from a unit's power, range is primarily determined by distance and line of sight conditions, or terrain, as in television transmission. But freak atmospheric conditions may also produce unusual reception. In early August, the *Kansas City Star*, also on the same band, overheard a good many *Missourian* conversations. One afternoon a frustrated newsman phoned to say the *Star* wasn't particularly interested in the livestock judging results at the Boone County Fair.

The *Star* wouldn't hear other transmissions if it had a private line switch, as do the *Missourian* and the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, again on the same frequency.

When the send button on a *Missourian* unit is pressed, a voice carrier wave is transmitted simultaneously with a 173.8 cycle sub-audible tone. The tone opens the receiver portion of the *Missourian* units and of other units on the same frequency which don't have private line switches or which have them turned off.

In the same manner, *Post-Dispatch* units emit a different cycled tone which will not activate *Missourian* units, unless their switch is off.

Radio KLX-247 has been so useful that it may be expanded if funds become available. Plans include the construction of a room near the city desk to house the main console with the *Missourian's* other radio equipment, which monitors eight fire, police and ambulance channels.

Haverfield also likes to talk of getting a monitor the size of a pack of regular kingsize cigarettes, which editors may conveniently carry while out of the office.

Such expansion could help the *Missourian* even better perform its roles of teaching and newsgathering — not to mention helping in emergencies. □