

# FM Station Temporarily In Ex-Lumber Firm's Building

Until such time as a proposed fine arts building is constructed and occupied, Wisconsin State University-Oshkosh's new FM radio station is comfortably and efficiently situated in what was once the office building of the old Fuller-Goodman Company, 203 Blackhawk St.

WRST-FM — standing for Wisconsin Radio Station of the Titans — has been broadcasting nightly on 88.1 megacycles since April 20 when the call letters were approved by the Federal Communications Commission.

Remodeling of the Fuller-Goodman building to serve as WRST-FM's office and studios has been extensive but, since the structure will eventually be razed and the radio operation transferred to the fine arts building, the cost was held down as much as possible.

The one-story building was acquired by the university in 1965 and remodeling was completed late in the year, according to Dr. Robert L. Snyder, WSU-O coordinator of radio and television.

tion of which has already been indexed.

The record library also includes jazz, "mood" music, folk songs, popular music, Broadway and Hollywood show music, and what the staff refers to as "specials," consisting of play readings and the like.

Music available to the station for special programs can be augmented by records from Dr. Snyder's vast private collection of jazz and classical LP records.

## Has Two Studios

Studio A, the larger of the station's two broadcasting studios, has what Dr. Snyder described as "reasonably good" acoustics for tape recording plays, panel discussion programs, etc. Outside windows in Studio A were closed up during remodeling and the entire room has been sound-proofed as much as possible.

Located directly between Studios A and B and visible from both through large windows is the station's control room, equipped with two turntables,

microphone, control board and two tape recorders.

The control room is the province of James Abbs, a sophomore from Eldorado, and a staff of student operators under the direction of Robert Kemper, a sophomore from Fremont.

## Used for Newscasts

Studio B, considerably smaller than Studio A, is used for newscasts, campus announcements and programs involving only a few people. As in Studio A, windows in this room have also been boarded up and sound proofed.

Located at the rear of the building is the engineering office, storage facilities and lavatory.

The only member of WRST-FM's present student staff with professional radio experience, acquired during summer vacations, is Sue Kobylski of Lake Geneva, traffic director. It is her job to see that the right programs go on the air each evening at the right times.

Chief Engineer Abbs, although he has never before worked at a radio station, has Navy electronics training and has done radio and television service work.

## Had "Ham" Experience

Several other members of the station's staff have had experience as "ham" radio operators.

As chief announcer, Dan Jochman, a junior from Neenah, assigns other announcers to the various shows and also handles some of the announcing chores himself. Programs and program themes are developed by Steve Liebert, a senior from Green Bay, program director.

WRST-FM sports directors are Steve Bassewitz, a senior from Fond du Lac, and Robert Goelz, a junior from Milwaukee. In addition to doing the regular sportscasts, their responsibilities include assigning crews to broadcast WSU-O's home baseball games.

A part of the WSU-O speech department's overall program, the radio station is operated with funds from the speech department budget, augmented by allocations from student activities fees.

## Educational Value

Dr. Snyder said that WRST-FM has a two-pronged educational mission, one of which is to provide university students with broad, practical experience in all phases of the broadcasting business. Students may earn minors in broadcasting or in speech by working at the station.

The second educational function of WRST-FM is to provide WSU-O students and residents in its reception area with informative and cultural recorded programs from the best sources of educational radio in the United States and supplemented by reports from national, non-commercial broadcasting companies abroad.

## Member of NAEB

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#### Member of NAEB

The Oshkosh station receives recorded educational material from the National Association of Educational Broadcasters, of which WRST-FM is a member. This includes outstanding speeches on a variety of subjects and from many viewpoints.

Plans call for more and more use to be made of WSU-O's own resources in programming. The English department has already done some shows for the station, and the School of Business Administration is planning others, some involving Oshkosh business leaders.

Both of the two university faculty members associated with the station — Dr. Snyder and Kilpatrick — had extensive radio experience before coming to Oshkosh. Dr. Snyder did announcing on a station at the University of Iowa and was faculty adviser to the Kansas State University radio station at Manhattan

by KXRK, a commercial radio station at San Jose, Calif.

#### Heard at Chilton

WRST-FM, antenna and transmitter of which are located on the roof of WSU-O's new high rise dormitory, has a reception area extending throughout an approximately 15-mile radius of Oshkosh. The station has had reports of good signal reception at Chilton, however, and people in Fond du Lac are hearing the station with outside antennas.

Dr. Snyder said that WRST-FM would appreciate postcards from area people who are receiving its signal with either exterior or interior antennas.

The radio station will continue operations during the university's coming summer session, but on a shortened schedule and will



#### IN THE WRST-FM CONTROL ROOM

Chief Engineer James Abbs and Engineer Robert Schaefer are pictured in the control room of WRST-FM, the Wisconsin State University-Oshkosh FM radio station. The call letters stand for Wisconsin Radio Station of the Titans. WRST-FM broadcasts nightly on 88.1 megacycles. The station will eventually be housed in the university's proposed fine arts building, now in the planning stages.

—Northwestern photo