

Closed Circuit

THE WGN FAMILY LETTER

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December 16, 1977

CHRISTMAS EVE/CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

- 7:30--AM--MOVIE: "THE CHRISTMAS MARTIAN" - While snowshoeing through the woods of their father's farm, a young girl and boy discover a "martian" that can transform himself at will into whatever he wishes. The story climaxes with an exciting snowmobile chase, the involvement of Santa Claus and some food for thought.
- 11:30--AM--CHARLANDO CHRISTMAS SHOW - A Christmas "Skit" entitled "UN SUENO NAVIDENO" (A Christmas Dream), Christmas Carols including "Rudolph, The Red Nose Reindeer" and the breaking of the customary/traditional "Piñata" by students from the Eisenhower High School and Whittier Elementary School, Blue Island, Illinois. Also an interview with Mr. Dennis Terdy, Bilingual Coordinator from the Eisenhower High School.
- 12:00--NOON--"MR. MAGOO'S CHRISTMAS CAROL" - The loveable but bumbling near-sighted Mr. Magoo (Jim Backus) portrays the flint-hearted Ebenezer Scrooge in this animated-musicalized variation of the Charles Dickens classic. This is a play-within-a-play, in which Mr. Magoo is seen as himself in the role of Scrooge. Once on stage Mr. Magoo does an excellent job in his serious dramatic effort as Scrooge. Also starring Morey Amsterdam, Jack Cassidy, Royal Dano and Paul Frees.
- 1:00--PM--"MR. MAGOO'S SNOW WHITE" PT.1 - The beloved Grimm fairy tale about a lovely princess and a cruel stepmother, in which Magoo plays all seven dwarfs.
- 1:30--PM--"MR. MAGOO'S SNOW WHITE" PT.2
- 2:00--PM--MOVIE: "HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN" (1952) - Once upon a time there lived in Denmark a great story-teller named Hans Christian Andersen. This is not the story of his life, but a fair tale about this great spinner of tales, wherein he falls in love with a beautiful ballerina and dreams of magnificent ballets. Starring Danny Kaye, Farley Granger and Jeanmarie.

ADD-1 CHRISTMAS EVE/CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24 (CONT'D)

5:00--PM--FAMILY AFFAIR - "Christmas Came A Little Early" - Uncle Bill arranges an early Christmas celebration for a critically ill girl from Buffy's class. Starring Brian Keith and cast.

5:30--PM--U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY BAND AND CHORUS presents "Holiday Moods In Blue" - (Colorado Springs) - The band and chorus under the direction of Major John McCord USAF will present a half-hour program of songs and music, including:

- "Angels We Have Heard On High"
- "God Rest You Merry Gentlemen"
- "Silent Night"
- "Sleigh Ride"
- "Christmas Song"
- "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas"
- "Toyland"

BW 6:00--PM--THE DICK VAN DYKE SHOW - "The Alan Brady Show Presents" - The entire Alan Brady staff presents a Christmas show, instead of the script turned in by the show's writers. Starring Dick Van Dyke and Mary Tyler Moore.

6:30--THE ODD COUPLE - "Scrooge Gets An Oscar" - After turning down the role of Scrooge in a Felix-directed Christmas play, Oscar kicks Felix out of the apartment. Starring Tony Randall and Jack Klugman.

BW 7:00--PM--Mc HALE'S NAVY - "The Day They Captured Santa Claus" - Lt. Cmdr. Quinton Mc Hale and his crew run into a Japanese ambush Christmas Day while playing Santa Claus to a group of native children. Starring Ernest Borgnine and cast.

8:30--VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY CHRISTMAS CHOIR - (Valparaiso, Indiana) - The Schola Cantorum Choir under the direction of Dr. Frederick H. Telschow, will present a half-hour of music and song, including:

- "The Magnificat".....Cesar De Zachariis, arr.
- "Oh Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel"
- "The Carol Of The Advent".....Dr. Telschow, arr.
- "From Heaven Above To Earth I Come".....Von Himmel Hoch
- "Gloria In Excelsis Deo".....Hans Leo Hassler
- "Nowell".....John Joubert, composer
- "In Dulci Jubilo".....Johannes Eccard, composer
- "A Christmas Carol".....Zoltan Kodaly
- "Sussex Carol".....Dale Wood, arr.
- "Ding Dong, Merrily On High".....Charles Wood, composer
- "Adeste Fideles".....Richard Wienhorst, arr.

ADD-2 CHRISTMAS EVE/CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24 (CONT'D)

9:00--PM--WHITNEY YOUNG HIGH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CHOIR - (Chicago) - The Whitney Young High School, under the direction of Mrs. Flora Robinson, will present a "Musical Fantasy", which includes a great half-hour of drama, "Noz" (The Dove Of Peace), dance and song, including:

"I Believe"
"Go Tell It On The Mountain"
"Carol Of The Bells"
"Do You Hear What I Hear"

9:30--PM--EMERSON HIGH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CHOIR - (Gary, Indiana) - The Emerson High School Choir under the direction of Mrs. Janet Cowen, will present "Bubbling Brown Holiday Greeting", which is a musical history of songs heard on the plantations through to the present day. Musical selections include:

"O Holy Night"
"Winter Wonderland"

BW 10:30--PM--WGN TELEVISION PRESENTS - "THE CHEATERS" (1954) - At the Christmas season, the self-indulgent members of the Pidgeon family invite a "charity case" to share the holiday with them. The charity case - Mr. M. -- is an ex-matinee idol who, disabled in an auto accident, has become a moody - philosophical cynic. While their guest, Mr. M. helps transform the Pidgeons from selfish, grasping materialists who are trying to cheat an unsuspecting young girl out of a large inheritance, into sincere, human people. Starring Joseph Schildkraut, Billie Burke and Eugene Pallette.

12:00--MIDNIGHT--MIDNIGHT MASS FROM HOLY NAME CATHEDRAL (LIVE) - with His Eminence John Cardinal Cody.

1:30--AM--MORMON TABERNACLE CHOIR - "The Music Of Christmas" - The Mormon Tabernacle Choir is joined by the Brigham Young University Brass Ensemble in a memorable half hour sparkling with Holiday Spirit.

2:00--AM--HARLAN HIGH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CHOIR - (Chicago) - The John Harlan High School choir under the direction of Carole Butler will present a musical drama, "A Traditional Story Of Christ Through The Eyes Of Mary". Musical selections include:

"I Wonder As I Wander"
"And So It Was"
"Glory Manger"
"While By Their Flock"
"Poor Mary"
"The Angels Song"
"Ding Dong"
"Jazz Gloria"

ADD-3 CHRISTMAS EVE/CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24 (CONT'D)

2:30--AM--HOMEWOOD-FLOSSMOOR COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CHOIR -
The Viking Choir and Ensemble under the direction of Mr. Walter Rodby
will present a Christmas program of dance and song, including:

Viking Choir

"Antiphone For Christmas"
"Hosanna In The Highest"
"Adoramus Te"
"Joy To The World"
"Waltz Of The Flowers"
"Christmas Star.....Soloist, Julie Howard
"Mary's Little Boy Child.....Soloist, James Hurd
"O Holy Night"

Viking Ensemble (Sing and Dance)

"Christmas Is Here"
"It's Christmas"
"A Merry Christmas Polka"

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

7:15--AM--THREE SCORE CHRISTMAS SHOW - with hostess Virginia Gale and
guests: Mary Spallitta, Helen Pius and the Singing Seniors from
Mills House.

7:45--AM--MASS FOR SHUT-INS - Celebrant: Father R. C. O'Connor, CHC USN:
with the "The Bluejacket Choir" from the U.S. Naval Training Center.
The Navy Blue Jacket Choir under the direction of Mr. E. D. Sandager,
will present a repertoire of music including all types of music from
Bach chorales to Broadway musical hits.

8:30--AM--HERITAGE OF FAITH - Dr. William D. White, Minister of the
Downers Grove United Methodist Church, and the Men's Glee Club of
the Fire Department, City of Chicago.

9:00--AM--COLLEGE OF DUPAGE CHRISTMAS CHOIR - (Glen Ellyn, Ill.) - The
Dupage Chamber Singers, under the direction of Dr. Carl A. Lambert
present a concert of "International Christmas Music". Musical selections
include:

"Good Christian Men Rejoice".....Alice Parker and Robert Shaw
"How Far Is It To Bethlehem".....David H. Williams
"Go Tell It On The Mountain".....John M. Work
"Happy Bethlehem".....Kurt Schindler
"O Leave Your Sheep".....Joseph Willcox Jenkins
"Merry Christmas".....Arthur Warrell
"Adeste Fideles"
"O Magnum Mysterium".....Thomas Luis De Victoria
"Carolling, Carolling".....Alfred Burt
"Balliol Carol".....Joseph Willcox Jenkins
"Green Sleeves"
"O Follow On Where Love May Lead"..Clement Jannequin

ADD-4 CHRISTMAS EVE/CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25 (CONT'D)

9:30--AM--"GIFT OF WINTER" - ANIMATED

10:00--AM--"SILENT NIGHT" - ANIMATED

10:30--AM--"TWELVE GIFTS" - ANIMATED

11:00--AM--CHRISTMAS CHURCH SERVICE - Live from St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church with Rev. Adalbert Kretzmann and Rev. David G. Abrahamson.

12:00--NOON--"THE WORLD OF HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN" - ANIMATED

3:30--PM--ADDISON TRAIL HIGH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CHOIR - (Addison, Ill.) - The Addison Trail High School Concert Choir under the direction of Mr. Richard Anderson will present a musical Christmas program, including songs:

"O Come All Ye Faithful"
"Silent Night".....Franz Gruber
"Here Mid The Ass And Oxen Mild"
"Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head".....John Jacob Niles
"Gloria In Excelsis Deo".....Martin Luther
"All Breathing Life Sing and Praise Ye The Lord"...Bach and Sabastian.
"Praise To The Lord.....Joachim Neander
"Hallelujah Chorus.....Handel
"White Christmas".....Irving Berlin
"We Wish You The Merriest And A Happy New Year"

BW 4:00--PM--FAMILY CLASSICS - "A CHRISTMAS CAROL" (1939) - Charles Dickens' classic story of a crusty old skinflint who, in one haunted evening, learns the true spirit of Christmas from three Christmas spirits. An embittered miser, soured on the world and his fellowman, has three ghostly visitors on Christmas Eve. After visions on long-dead happiness past and present remorse and a fearful glimpse into the future, he is given a chance to face the world afresh on Christmas morning. Starring Reginald Owen, Gene Lockhart and Kathleen Lockhart.

BW 5:30--PM--MOVIE - "Miracle On 34th St." (1947) - Kris Kringle is hired as Santa Claus for Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade to start the Christmas season; delightful combination of fantasy and humor as mother and daughter learn to "believe." Starring Maureen O'Hara, Gene Lockhart, and Natalie Wood.

9:00--PM--THE LAWRENCE WELK SHOW - "Lawrence Welk Musical Family Heralds Arrival of Christmas!" - Toys, toy soldiers, carols, caroleers, and kids! kids! kids! all join together this week on the Lawrence Welk program which hails the arrival of Christmas Day and The Christmas season.

ADD-5 CHRISTMAS EVE/CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25 (CONT'D)

1:30--AM--LAKE PARK HIGH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CHOIR - (Roselle, Ill.) - The Lake Park High School Concert Choir under the direction of Mr. Paul F. Ortscheid, will present a musical program, including the musical selections:

- "Night Before Christmas"
- "Come Christmas Morning"
- "Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head"
- "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"
- "The First Noel"
- "How Unto Bethlehem"
- "O Come All Ye Faithful:"
- "Peace"
- "And The Glory Of The Lord"

2:00--AM--UNITY HIGH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CHOIR - (Chicago) - The Unity High School Gospel Choir under the direction of Mr. Jeffery Radford will present a musical drama, "A Musical Fantasy", with musical selections including:

- "God Is Different Things"
- "What Will You Put Under The Christmas Tree"
- "God Smiled On Me"
- "Lord We Pray For Peace"
- "Hang All The Mistletoe"
- "Let It Snow"
- "White Christmas"
- "Silver Bells"
- "Sleigh Ride"
- "The Christmas Song"
- "Silent Night"

1977 CRUSADE OF MERCY TOPS GOAL WITH RECORD RESULTS OF \$48,556,000

The 1977 Crusade of Mercy has gone over the top, exceeding its goal of \$48.5 million.

Results announced show the campaign is projected to raise \$48,556,000 to support human care services in the metropolitan Chicago area in the coming year.

The results were revealed by general campaign chairman James F. Bere' to a cheering throng of about 1,700 volunteer campaign workers at a dutch-treat victory luncheon in the International Ballroom of the Conrad Hilton Hotel.

Bere', who is chairman and chief executive officer of Borg-Warner Corporation, introduced past campaign chairmen and thanked his leadership team and the other campaign workers for their efforts.

"However, the true heroes of this campaign," Bere' said, "are the Chicago area people who contributed so generously to make this campaign a success and I wish I could personally thank each one of them,"

Bere' lauded past campaign chairmen and said that without their efforts to build upon, this year's success could not have been achieved. He pointed out that through the past years the Crusade of Mercy campaigns have edged closer and closer to the goal, always raising more than the preceding campaign, culminating in this year's effort, which went over the goal for the first time in 11 years.

The 1977 drive is a record and represents a 10 percent increase over the \$44.1 million raised in 1976. It makes the Crusade the largest among 2,200 united way campaigns in the nation for the sixth consecutive year.

He pointed out that while the 1977 drive is formally concluded with the luncheon event, many Chicago and suburban companies and organizations are still completing their campaigns. The Crusade campaigns also continue in many of the suburban united ways, funds and community chests that are members of the United Way of Suburban Chicago, one of the three partners in the Crusade. In addition, the Crusade raises funds for the United Way of Metropolitan Chicago and the Mid-America Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Forty-two Chicago and area companies were recognized with Gold Fair Share plaques for more than 75 percent of their employees giving Fair Share to the Crusade. Eighty-two companies where 50 to 75 percent of employees gave Fair Share were honored by Silver Fair Share plaques. Fair Share has been defined by Crusade leaders as at least one percent of gross annual income for those earning \$15,000 or more and one day's pay for all others.

Award winning companies that complete their campaigns later will also receive plaques.

Lt. Col. Andrew S. Miller, unified commander of the Salvation Army programs in the Chicago area, thanked those attending on behalf of the hundreds of human care agencies that benefit from the Crusade.

The last time the Crusade of Mercy reached its goal was in 1966 when it raised \$22,800,151.

Happy Birthday to Lloyd Ellingwood-December 19, Don Miller-December 20, Dan Bray-December 20, Emil Jung-December 21, Sue Petix-December 22, Chuck Henry-December 22, Joe Dicanio-December 23, Bob Hedberg-December 23, Dick Erlenbach-December 26, Dan Seltzer-December 29, Ruby Anderson-December 29, Frank Hollich-December 30, Phil Reid-December 30, Kay Joyce-January 1, Ed Sullivan-January 2, George Baczynsky-January 2, Jim Loughman-January 3, Fred Bruneman-January 4, Doug Challos, January 6, Ray Kirk-January 7, Meschill Vargas-January 8 and Ray Osborne-January 8.

WELCOME TO:

Patricia Clark, Intern, Community Affairs
Douglas Drew, Intern/Community Affairs/
Selma Landry, Intern-Newsroom

CONGRATULATIONS TO: Steve Novak, promoted to TV Schedule/Film, and Frank Rog, promoted to Building Dept./full-time.

BAKE SALE HUGE SUCCESS

The results of the WGN Bake Sale was a huge success. A check in the amount of \$460.00 was presented to Wally Phillips for the Neediest Christmas Fund. We did better than last year, so we don't know if everyone baked more or if we all are eating more!

Everyone pitched in -- our female employees, our male employees and their wives, our Cafeteria staff, friends -- just everyone and it made us all feel great.

Thank you one and all.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES

Dick Jones was M.C. for the Evening's Festivities at the Delta Omicron International Music Fraternity Founders Day Dinner on December 13, - at the Cliff Dwellers Club at Orchestra Hall. Guest Speaker was Tom Willis, Tribune Music Critic and Faculty Member of Northwestern University.

Send Get Well Wishes to Emil Jung and Ed Sawicki at home

FOR SALE: POOL TABLE - 7'4" - very good condition. \$275.00. Lee Kristyn - 774-3866 or 637-2474.

PIONEER SA 9900 International Amp. 110 Watts RMS. 8 months old. Under warranty. \$290.00. Adeline on switchboard or 478-7551

RAY RAYNER asks "Why didn't the three wise men water their camels on their journey." No Well.....

RECIPE CORNER

JELLY SQUARES

(Quick and easy)

2 sticks margarine or butter - 1 cup powdered sugar - 2 cups sifted flour.
Mix and spread on cookie sheet - bake at 325 degrees about 20 to 25 minutes.
Remove from oven and spread pineapple, apricot or preserve of your choice on top. Beat 3 egg whites until stiff slowly adding 3/4 cup sugar. Spread egg whites on top and sprinkle chopped nuts and bake once again at 300 degrees for 25 minutes. Cool and cut into squares. Delicious!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS FOR NOVEMBER.

The following employees will have their photos on display for the next three weeks in the Camera Club display case opposite Studio 1 ...first floor corridor.

First Award: "NORWEGIAN POTATO DIGGER"
David Taylor, Retired.

Second Award: "THE CHRISTIAN RADICH"
Joe Rozanski, Radio Engineering

Third Award: "UNTITLED"
Mike Lesperance, Radio Traffic

Honorable Mentions:

"HORSES" by Al Jones, TV Engineer

"NORTH DAKOTA CAMPGROUND" by Joe Rozanski

"ARABIAN HORSES" by David Taylor

The Photo Contest for December requires entries that were taken during the holidays throughout the year. Pictures can be those taken in past years which you feel are best representative of a holiday mood. Deadline for entries:
.....January 2nd, 1978.....

For those of you who may be interested, there are five impartial judges who choose the photos they believe to be best in composition, color and mood. Each judge does his own elimination and choosing according to the rules given him. The judge then gives each of the five best prints a point score on a scale of 1 to 10, with the highest score going to the best print in his judgement. All scores are tallied and the print amassing the most points is given the top award. Judges score sheets are available for all to see. Please remember that no one person can receive two awards in the top three places. First, second and third must be given to three separate individuals. Prizes given in the past have been free lunches in the cafeteria, free rolls of film to fit your camera, backgammon games, travel alarms, and pocket transistor radios.

For further information, see Dick Barnes, Room 167 or Coleman King in the mail room.

People You Should Know



"The (Wally) Phillips phenomenon," noted a Chicago newspaper columnist, "is a combination of habit, talent, timing, hard work, and the intangible result of that combination — a kind of intimacy between him and his audience."

And it's another phenomenal combination that puts the world at Wally Phillips' fingertips — a natural partnership between Wally Phillips and the telephone.

Wally Phillips, whose 5:30 to 10 a.m. radio show on WGN, is heard by half the total morning Chicago radio audience, nearly one and one-half million people is by all rights the most popular personality in Chicago radio and one of the top rated morning drive personalities in any U.S. major radio market.

Each weekday, Wally's quick wit and sometimes unorthodox approach touches people all over the world and from all walks of life — on the air and, maybe more importantly, over the telephone. As many as 500-600 callers a day wait their turn to chat with Wally.

A native of Portsmouth, Ohio, Wally is certainly far afield of where he believed he would be many years ago when, as a youngster, he attended a preparatory seminary of the Passionist Order in St. Louis, Missouri. After two years in the seminary, Wally joined his family in Cincinnati and wrangled the lead in his class play, "Brother Orchid,"

the part made famous in the movies by Edward G. Robinson. He did such a good job that his picture is still hanging at the high school.

Wally didn't complete that term in school, but instead entered the Air Force as a supply sergeant. After discharge, he worked as an office clerk while taking night courses at Schuster-Martin School of Drama where he made some tapes and was recommended as a disc-jockey at WJEF, Grand Rapids, Michigan in July of 1947. A year later he was back in Cincinnati working for WSAI.

Along with other on-the-air personalities, he devised the SORE Club (Same Old Routine Everyday) and opened fire on the tired routines used by disc-jockeys, gaining a reputation as a humorist and a satirist.

In 1950 he moved to WCPO and garnered a large following because of his wit and "madcap humor." For example, the "in-think" in radio at that time was pre-recorded star interviews. The dee-jay would be given a transcript, ask the proper question, and wait for the star's taped answer. But Wally soon began changing the questions so that the pre-arranged replies sounded ridiculous. Instead of opening with the script's line, "I guess it's a thrill to have a hit record going?" Wally would cut in "Don't you think your voice has gotten a little shakey over the past year?" The star's recorded

reply would be, "I'll go along with that."

His timing was perfection and he started collecting recorded bits, words, and sounds which he used to interrupt the music of his shows, interjecting them as commentary, foils, and butts for his jokes.

Wally's rating continued to climb and in 1952 he joined Cincinnati's WLW, becoming so successful with his radio program (in addition to a highly-rated hour-long television show) that in the fall of 1956 WGN Continental Broadcasting Company brought him to Chicago.

Today the Wally Phillips Show, rated number one in Chicago, ranges from the well-schemed hi-jinks of an April Fool's prank to a serious, award-winning news format.

Literally extending his domain all over the world via the cooperation of the telephone company, Wally's wit and charm, along with his genuine warmth and vital interest, have urged his listeners to confide in him on every conceivable subject.

"I like the kind of spontaneity that if there's a traffic accident, our 'trafficopters' bust right in with it, I want it so that I can call any country in the world and be on the phone with the person and an interpreter at the same time," says Wally.

"Instant radio," he calls it, "and an instant world all around me!"

"We're giving the people what they really want," says Wally.

While some have called him "Madcap" and the "darling of the morning radio field," there is also a personable side to Wally Phillips.

Wally dedicates almost every waking moment, both on and off the air, to helping people in need, be it a simple request for information or one of his many charitable endeavors, embracing almost every known organization.

"I've been able to get in the middle of people and put the haves with the have-nots," says Wally, who has inspired his listeners to amazing heights in cooperations, if it be a weather report for the South Pacific or a plea for contributions to the "Neediest Children's Christmas Fund."

With an intuitive knack for satisfying his listeners and a firm grip on exactly what his radio audience wants to hear, Wally Phillips is indeed a phenomenon, dominating the Chicago radio market since 1968.

A radio package that doesn't quit

It is ironic that the two Chicago disc-jockeys who have the most successful back-to-back radio shows in the country have such contrasting approaches to not just broadcasting, but life in general.

If Wally Phillips is the grand conversationalist weekday mornings before dawn and during the rush hour, then Roy Leonard certainly is the grand inquisitor later in the morning as the city's work day gets under way.

They both enjoy strong identification with their listeners and success in what they do, but their styles on the air and their personal pleasures are as different as night and day.

"RISE AND SHINE" has become synonymous with Phillips' chat, wit and service during the past 10 years. He commands one of the largest morning audiences anywhere in the country weekdays from 5:30 to 10 a.m. and delights in randomly selecting from his estimated 1.5 million listeners during the week to help make his show work.

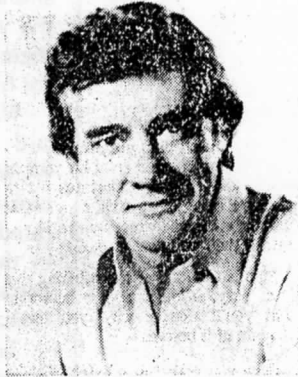
In those difficult, starting hours of the morning, people are looking for help, information and a friendly, reassuring voice, Phillips

"They want to know what the weather is, what the traffic conditions are and what has happened in the world overnight while they were sleeping," he said. "They want to be reassured that all is considerably well with the world and that they can make it through another day."

BY THE TIME Leonard takes over at 10 a.m., people are off doing chores and errands. "By that time, they are simply looking for companionship or some interesting information while they do their work," he said.

And so, Leonard serves up appetizing, well balanced helpings of music, personality interviews, public affairs information, entertainment reviews and entertainment world gossip through 2 p.m. He faces the difficult task each day of bridging his show over the agriculturally dominated "noon Show," which airs noon to 1 p.m.

Although Leonard's listening audience drops off from the early morning, leaving him mostly with homemakers and small businessmen, the audience becomes more specific and the pace becomes more leisurely, he said.



ROY LEONARD

THE TWO MEN have developed very different ways of using the telephone and integrating their audiences into their shows.

Phillips admits that the star of his show is the audience and the most important element of his operation is the telephone. Among the weather, traffic reports and commercials stunted with pre-recorded and comic remarks and noises, Phillips lets his audience take the show and run with it.

A man calls up with a problem and before you know it, half of Chicago is on the phone with advice and generous assistance. A woman calls up with a question, and someone has the answer in minutes.

Phillips is a natural for bringing people together, and Chicago loves it.

Leonard runs his business a little differently. "I give my audience something and then they react to it," he said. "I use the telephone, but I control it more. No one knows how to use the telephone better than Wally, but I don't rely on it quite as much as he does."

"It's amazing, but we are probably as different as two people can be," Leonard said. "We're good friends and we share an awful lot between shows in the way of information that might help each other. But what we

This week on radio

do on our shows is very different."

LEONARD'S OWN broad application for the arts coupled with a change in WGN station philosophy has precipitated a growth in music programming on Leonard's show from a steady diet of Ray Coniff to a diversity that includes popular rock and Broadway hits.

His interviews with everyone from the resident plant doctor to a theater great, entertainment reviews and telephone conversations with listeners carry the same enthusiasm Leonard brought to WGN nearly 10 years ago from his native Massachusetts.

It was out East where the would-be actor learned he'd rather do on-air interviews with artists than cover hard news as a reporter in the streets.

"My proudest experience was to interview then Sen. John F. Kennedy on my radio show, only to have to cover his assassination in Hyannisport when he was President some years later," Leonard said. "I knew after that experience, that I didn't want to be a radio newsman but a communicator instead."

HIS CAREER "just happened," Leonard said, and the golden voice "is all the doing of an old orator who taught me how to speak," he said.

Phillips, on the other hand, a Portsmouth, Ohio native, moved up the ranks in the radio world from his days as an Air Force disc jockey to a genuine satirist and humorist. He was interrupting music and commercials with his collection of recorded bits, words and sounds in the interest of commentary and folly long before he set foot in Chicago.

His style is trivia, spontaneity and people touching other people over the airwaves. Phillips has been known to pull pranks on his show on April Fools' Day and turn his show over to serious coverage of a breaking news story. But, somehow, under any circumstance, Phillips the Philosopher shines through.

"MY OWN FEELING is that radio



WALLY PHILLIPS

should be a personal medium. Television is a box, but radio is a friend. You can put your make-up on with it and cook with it," Phillips said.

"I try to sense and perceive what the morning is all about. It's tough enough a struggle just to get up in the morning without controversy. We give them what they need and a little more, hopefully. We keep a lot of material around and try to make it palatable."

Phillips believes there is much to be said for a radio broadcaster who talks to his listeners like people rather than like a processed, analyzed entity.

"People are really desperate to get some love going and that's what I'm after. We try to bring people together and help them out," Phillips said.

And that kind of love starts with the man at the mike.

Leonard is the kind of old-fashioned family man and father of six sons who gathers his family at the station for an annual Christmas broadcast while Phillips, separated from his wife, gets misty eyed talking about how proud he is of his three children.

Their shows stand alone and must be judged on their own merits. But together, Phillips and Leonard make for one of the most successful packages on radio — living proof, after all, that opposites do attract.

club calendar.

AFTER 5

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER



INSIDE:

CHICAGO'S MERRI DEE

MISS UNIVERSE

MISS BLACK ILLINOIS

YOU WANT TO BE A MODEL

MEET

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

ESTER STALON

PHOTOS:

MISS BLACK TEENAGE CONTEST

TRENDS LIFESTYLE

SECTION



Exclusive Interview: Merri Dee

by Rona Bostic

"I have bluffed my way into a lot of situations . . . They say, be prepared . . . I think that you must be prepared, but you must also have the other . . . a little bit of *chutzpah* (guts) to be able to get through . . . sometimes the preparation scares you."

Merri Dee doesn't need to bluff anymore. After 11 years of success as a model and radio and TV personality, the confidence she exudes is sincere. She is a rarity—a woman with enough drive and ambition to succeed on her own in a man's world without losing her "femininity", her down-to-earth way of putting people at ease. Now, her *chutzpah* is directed toward helping others through charitable organizations such as Athletes for Better Education and the American Cancer Society.

Born in Chicago, she was a bright, extroverted child. "In school my hand was always up, I was always asking questions. Sometimes the teacher had to tell me to sit down and be quiet." After graduating from Englewood High, she went on to Xavier College in New Orleans.



Merri prepares to go on the air with her morning newscast on WGN-TV.

She met a major test of her confidence in 1959, when she was hired as one of the first Blacks to represent IBM at universities and conventions across the country. A frightening prospect for any young woman, especially when she has an infant daughter: "It was really a scary kind of situation for me. I wanted to do it . . . I was really anxious to go and see the world and travel and yet I wanted to be home, so I was pulled in two directions. But I also wanted something else; I wanted our family to be together: I also wanted us to live good. So I took it."

After a while, the IBM job lost its challenge. "I came home after 6½ years with IBM and decided I was going to play Mommy. At that point I was divorced and it was the two of us together. She was five and I thought, 'Well, come home girl, play Mommy now and settle into Chicago.' I didn't have any idea what I was going to do; all I know was I had saved a lot of money and I knew that I could bum around for a year and take care of my daughter. I came back here and I was modeling again, and I enrolled in engineering school."

Merri likes to say she is 10-15 years ahead of her time. Long before "Women's Liberation" became a media catchphrase, she was the only woman in her engineering class. Although she did well, a teacher advised her to try Radio and TV because he didn't think people were "ready" for a woman engineer. So she concentrated on modeling, which led to a jazz announcing spot on WBEE, followed by spots on WSDM and WAAF and a TV talk show on Channel 26. Currently, she's on WGN-TV (Channel 9) reading the Morning News and announcing. How does she see the outlook for Blacks in communications? "Dreadful. When I came into the business 11 years ago, Blacks were 2½% of the total. Five years ago, we went up to almost 4%. But now we are back down there. I see a lot of people in commercials and I think that the FCC is count-

ing those people when they say this is how many Black people we have across the country in Radio and TV. Oh sure, we have a lot more than we did, but we don't have anywhere near as many as people believe they see. If you put a Black face in a commercial and the commercial runs 86 times a day, it's going to seem like there are a lot more than there are." Currently, Merri is trying to organize a conference of Black Radio and TV personalities to address the problem.

For a woman who has functioned independently for so long, she has some surprisingly conservative views of women's role. "Most women, for instance when we get married, we say we want him to make us happy. We can't want him to make us happy. We have to become happy people first. We have to be our own people, we have to know what we want. When you get inside of yourself and understand where you are, what fits in your schedule during the day, what dresses look best on you . . . then you come out and say this is what I'd like to do and let's discuss it . . . it doesn't always mean that I get my way either. I give in in two seconds, if I see that I can't go in that other direction. I'm a very flexible person and I think that we have to be that way in order to be happy people. Women run it."

How does she mean that? "Men are out here in the world and they have so many pressures on them that if they didn't have women to fall back on . . . at home and work, they would never, ever be as good as they are . . . they don't think they want to be out there by themselves. I think they want us supporting them. A woman has to believe that wholeheartedly. She has to believe that she is a real necessary human being."

Now that her daughter is a young woman, is she trying to counter the social influences, some of them negative, that work on young women today? "Communication. We talk a lot

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Lush plants and fine art decorate Merri Dee's glamorous lake-view apartment.

... I am the most important influence in my daughter's life, I am the biggest influence in her life and I probably will be. Because I believe it, I understand it, I started it out. I didn't wait until she was six years old to make that influence, I made it at birth and when she was one year old I was making the influence in her life. I was the example. I sacrificed an awful lot of good times to be there with my daughter, especially when I decided divorce was it. Then I knew that I was going to really take hold of my life and my child's life. So I set forth a pattern of setting a good example. I knew that I had to set a good example. That was what I got up with everyday; I never, ever veered off that pattern. It shows today. We have a girlfriend kind of relationship. It's obvious. Everybody sees it and I have so many people say, 'How do you do it?' I did it everyday, I didn't stop, I never took a vacation from it. You get in there and do it; it's your responsibility, the kid didn't ask to get here. There's a lot of joy and happiness as well as sacrifices. I don't know where I'd be today without that kid."

Merri Dee's life has not been all success and happiness. In 1971 she and a companion were kidnapped and shot. Her companion was killed, but Merri survived and has no bitter feelings about the incident. "I'm just glad I made it. If anything, I feel sorry for the man who did it, and especially for his mother."

What about the future? Does she have network plans? "I have no interest in a network spot. I was offered two network jobs and I turned them down. Chicago is my home ... I love it. Chicago fans have been extremely good to me ... I feel like I can do no wrong."

That's an unusual attitude in a day when more money and higher status seem to be what everybody wants. "Well, you see, I think you have to get to a certain point in your life where you're peaceful ... and it's not lazy, it's peaceful. I'm peaceful inside of me. I have a very even-keel kind of feeling in there and I'm very secure in where I am, and what I do and where I want to go. Where I want to go is on vacation. Maybe that says something about me, maybe I've been working too long, I don't know. I just know that whatever I do next is usually what I want to do. I choose, I make the decisions in my life and I'm very happy with me; I'm very happy in my life.

"I'm still a little nervous ... every time the cameras go on ... the day that I lose that adrenalin feeling that comes up and makes me perspire in back of the ears and neck ... I think I'll get out. I'll know I have reached a peak and it's not exciting anymore."

Greetings of the Season

