Student-run radio experiences first week on OSU campus

By Sandy Nelson
Lantern staff writer

KBUX, the long-awaited, student-run radio station sponsored by Undergraduate Student Government, has almost finished its first week of broadcasting and is already looking forward to becoming an FM station.

The station can be heard by tuning any UNITS cable-equipped television on campus to channel 52 between 7 a.m. and 11 p.m. daily. Fellow students broadcast live from a tiny room in the basement of the Ohio Union.

John Carney, general manager of KBUX, said the station is getting requests of about 20 songs an hour from listeners in the campus community.

Carney, 19, a sophomore majoring in criminology and political science, is responsible for the hiring and firing of station staff.

He said any student interested in working for the radio station can get involved.

There are more than 50 students actively participating in the station, all on a volunteer basis. There are no paid employees, Carney said.

Every night from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Jay Holland, the program director, hosts a live show with professional-guest disc jockeys mixing the music.

Holland, 24, a junior majoring in education, said disc jockeys play a variety of hip-hop, R&B, Top 40 and techno music to attract all kinds of students.

Training for the volunteer disc jockeys is minimal.

"It's just a matter of cueing the CD and playing it," Holland said. Anyone interested in working for KBUX should contact the station and leave their name and free-time schedule, he said.

The station's new equipment is state-of-the-art and includes a digital audio tape player, two compact disc players, a dual-cassette player, a mini-disk player, two turntables, and a 24-track mixing board, that Holland says makes it possible to record artists live in the station.

The students involved in KBUX overcame budget problems and other operational delays that kept them from broadcasting Spring quarter as planned.

Now that the station is up and running, station managers are looking forward to making the jump to FM.

"Our goal is to be FM by Winter quarter," said Eric Richards, station manager.

KBUX can function as an FM frequency without a Federal Communications Commission license under Rule 16, which will allow the station to broadcast on a low-power frequency available only on campus, Richards said.

In order to broadcast outside the university, KBUX must first purchase a $25,000 FM transmitter and a $50,000 FCC license to operate, he said.

KBUX has already applied for FM frequency 105.9, but has no way of knowing when its application will be processed and accepted, Richards said.

Last weekend, KBUX broadcast OSU's home football game against Purdue live as the first in a series, said James Heath, station sports director.

KBUX also will broadcast the remaining home games against Iowa, Illinois and Indiana, Heath said.

KBUX also plans to broadcast as many men's and women's home basketball games as possible, he said.

This does not violate WBNS's exclusive radio rights to OSU athletics because it is being broadcast on campus by students for an educational purpose, Heath said.
COTA plan to be debated on radio show

By Chlaki Tatamoto
Lantern staff writer

USG president John Carney and commuter representative Steve Cuckler will appear on “Soapbox,” the new call-in show on KBUX, Sunday from noon to 1 p.m.

Carney and Cuckler are expected to debate the COTA bus referendum that students will vote on Tuesday, said Jamie Pietras, a co-host of the show.

“Historically, John and Steve have been two opponents in USG,” Pietras said. “This week will be exciting.”

Cuckler is opposed to the referendum and said the show will provide an excellent opportunity to give the students a voice on the topic.

Carney, a strong supporter of the referendum, also thinks expressing issues through the radio program is a good opportunity.

“It is a great way to get students together,” he said.

Carney said he might talk about the dispute over the USG’s letter to Arizona State.

Cuckler said he doesn’t think that the letter is an issue.

“That was just a joke,” he said.

Soapbox airs on 91.1 FM every Sunday. Students living in the dorms can listen to the program on cable channel 41.
Mt. Graham debate on KBUX

Students can call in views on the telescope project

By Brad Jones
Lantern staff writer

Ohio State students who want to voice their opinions on the Mt. Graham telescope project and other environmental issues can call in Sunday from noon until 1 p.m. on KBUX 91.1 FM.

"Soapbox" is a call-in radio show aired every week on KBUX. Some past topics of the show include COTA, Harvey Fierstein and other controversial issues effecting OSU students.

"Any student who follows campus news and knows what is going on can call in to speak their minds," said Jamie Pietras, the show's host.

It is a good opportunity for students and faculty to express views that they otherwise wouldn't be able to do, Pietras said.

"The telescope project is the main topic of our show this week because it certainly is a controversial issue," he said. "It is a paramount decision of this university and there is an opposition that needs to be heard."

The featured guest of the show is Chris Scheffield, a member of the Student Environmental Action Coalition, Pietras said.

"We haven't confirmed that any members of the astronomy department that were invited are coming," Pietras said. "We also asked some graduate students to call in and answer questions."

Andreas Berlind, a graduate student in astronomy, said most of the people asked to participate couldn't because of conflicting schedules, but he and other graduate students plan on calling in to comment and answer questions on environmental issue.

"I researched the project and found there is research done by the university and private consulting firms stating the environmental concerns that were stated about this project are not valid," Berlind said.

Scheffield, who was unavailable for comment, will also be addressing other environmental concerns as well.

KBUX encourages any student who has an opinion on the issue to call 688-4287 on Sunday during the show.
Callers win dates on KBUX show

By Frank Sims
Lantern Staff Writer

Love is in the air every Thursday evening on KBUX, Ohio State's student-run radio station.

"The House of Love," a call-in dating show, airs from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., from the station located in the basement of the Ohio Union. The show is broadcast on the radio at 91.1 FM and in the dorms on UNITS television Channel 41.

The host of the show, Jamie "J.P. Valentine" Pietras, a junior majoring in journalism, started "The House of Love" during spring quarter of 1996. In the original show, Valentine was paired with two co-hosts, Tom "Tommy Rock" Sandrock, a junior majoring in business, and Joe Gibbs.

Currently, the show is hosted by Valentine and Rock, but they sometimes receive input from their radio technician, Terry Mikkelsen.

The show's format is simple, Valentine said. Every Thursday, Valentine invites a young woman to come on the air with the chance of winning a free date.

Before Valentine introduces the contestant for the show, he asks the contestant to come back on the air and tell how their date went.

Next, he likes to spend five to 10 minutes talking with the new contestant. Then he hands the microphone to Rock for a physical description of the contestant.

Valentine proceeds to ask her questions about her likes and dislikes of men and dating. Phone lines are then opened for callers who want a chance at winning a date with the contestant. The guest questions each caller about things like past dates and what they expect in future encounters.

It's all about love. We're just trying to hook people up.

— Tom Sandrock, co-host

has an opportunity to choose the caller who best answered her questions. Valentine was sure to add that the guest is not obligated to go out with any of the callers.

The date this quarter is a dinner for two at Street Scene.

Carrie Costello, a junior majoring in economics, was a guest on the show during autumn quarter and said it was a lot of fun. She said Valentine was funny and kept her laughing during the whole show.

Costello won a date with Dan Ujzco, a junior majoring in international studies.

"He was a total gentleman," Costello said of Ujzco. "We ate at a nice Italian restaurant and had an interesting conversation," said Costello.

Valentine encourages all students to listen and call in.

"It's all in the name of fun. If I'm a jerk to somebody on the air it's nothing personal, we don't take ourselves too seriously," said Valentine.

Anyone who wants to be a contestant on "The House of Love" can pick up an application at the station.

Valentine said men are also welcome as contestants on the show.

"It's all about love. We're just try-
KBUX chewed out for 'bestiality' flyer

By Jennifer Chorpening
Lantern staff writer

Student radio station KBUX is coming under fire for flyers, including one that features the photo of USG Assembly member David Overeem alongside the statement, "College Republicans and Bestiality."

The flyer featuring Overeem — an advertisement for the news and debate show "Ignoreland" hosted by DJ Nathan Crabbe, which airs at 2 p.m. Sundays — has been posted around campus with the slogan, "There's only one place you can talk about these two topics on one show," referring to the political club of which Overeem is a member.

Overeem said Wednesday that he thought the flyer was funny, but some others, including his girlfriend, took offense.

He said Crabbe has repeatedly tried to have him as a guest on the show, and he believes the flyer might be in response to accusations he made concerning USG President John Carney's character.

"I can prove every allegation I've made. I challenge KBUX to produce a shred of evidence to prove this," he said. "John Carney is getting the station manager to do his dirty work for him."

Carney said he has not seen the flyer but rumors of taking funding away from the station were jokes and not a possibility. He said another KBUX flyer has his name and vice president Greg Krabacher's name with the word "impotence."

"Nathan Crabbe was attacking both of us (Carney and Overeem)," Carney said. Carney, Steve Cuckler, the Commuter's 3 representative, and KBUX management will have to sit down together to work out publicity problems, Carney said.

KBUX operations manager Terry Mikkelen said he has not seen the flyer but "I don't see it as a slam on USG or College Republicans."

USG funds KBUX and was responsible for getting the station on the air.

On Wednesday night, some Assembly members said the flyer was in poor taste and that KBUX funding should be reviewed. Others thought the flyer was a harmless joke.

Speaker Brian Mead said the flyer is "wrong because one part of student government is attacking itself."

Kevin Sheriff, Apartment and Rooming House 1 representative, called the flyer attackers a "bunch of hypocrites."

"If you are offended by this flyer you should be just as offended ... by bad mouthing. The only thing that is different is it is funded by student money," Sheriff said.

Mead responded by saying, "Bestiality — that's a different thing."

Collette Filice, the Social Work and Human Ecology representative, said USG money should not be used to slam other student organizations on campus.

Guy Ram, North Campus representative, said, "I think the real issue is that KBUX is a privately funded artistic institution. I do think it was in poor taste, but at the same time David Overeem is in a constant state of poor taste ... it was bound to happen."

In addition, he said, College Republicans have a history of chalking slanderous messages around the Ohio Union. "When they act with such reckless abandon ..., I don't know what else they expect," he said.

After the meeting, Mikkelen called The Lantern and said Crabbe told him that he paid for the flyers and did not use USG funding.
November 12, 1997

Bertha Ihnat
The Ohio State University Archive

Dear Bertha:

There is lots more to the station, but this brief history gives a good summing up. If you would ever like more information, don’t hesitate to call. Thanks for calling.

KBUX History

October 22, 1995 was a monumental day for the Ohio State University. It was the day that student-run radio became a reality. With grants from the Undergraduate Student Government, and the Office of Student Affairs, KBUX. "The Underground" began broadcasting from the basement of the Ohio Union. KBUX is a non-commercial station, and is carried on both cable and radio transmitters. Students on campus can listen to it on the OSU Information Channel 19. It is also broadcast at 650 mW on 91.1 FM. Originally, the station was supervised by General Manager John Carney and Station Manager Eric Richards. Since its inception, KBUX has made nothing but progress, under former station manager Tracy Brownfield and the current station manager Alexi Papaleonardos. The station is fully operational 24 hours a day, with a staff of over 100 students who volunteer their time throughout the year.

KBUX is unique to the city of Columbus, in that it’s the only station with an underground format, playing new indie rock, hip-hop, and electronic music. It also offers a variety of specialty shows representing diverse tastes of music. Local music, acid jazz, reggae and metal are among the different genres represented. Talk radio has a campus focus, with a variety of news, sports and public affairs programs offered throughout the week. "The Underground" encourages all students to take advantage of the possibilities of student-run radio. Positions are available as on-air personalities and show producers. There are opportunities to gain experience off the air as well, in management, business, promotions, computer graphics, and audio productions. Anyone interested in becoming involved can call the station at 292-0436, or send email to kbux@postbox.acs.ohio-state.edu.

Sincerely,
Joe Atzberger