

file

Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Road
Frederick, Md. 21701
April 13, 1987

Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C.

Attention licensing or complaint sections,

Our local newspapers recently reported that the commission is licensing another, a religious broadcaster, to use the frequency already assigned to and used by Johns Hopkins University, WJHU, 88.1 FM. WJHU has as strong an FM signal here as any but our local stations.

This means that we and a large percentage of the citizens of this part of Maryland, certainly a large percentage of those west of Baltimore, will be denied access to the high-quality programs of music and information presented by our highly regarded university. WJHU is uniquely in a position to draw upon and present information from some of the best minds in the country. Its music ~~is~~ programs are largely classical, which our local stations do not air.

I question the commission's decision to deny us, the very many who will be denied, access to what WJHU airs. I think it is unwise and unfair and may redound against the commission and the present administration because it smacks of favoritism for religion. This is because the potential local licensee, Joy Broadcasting, is going to present what the papers describe as exclusively "religious music," obviously of one faction of one religion only.

I am not complaining that Joy ought not have access to the airwaves and I do not believe they should be. What I am complaining is that they have selected and the commission has, from the published account, approved a frequency that will deny us and many others any access to what we are already enjoying from WJHU.

The religious broadcasters ought be restricted to a frequency that does not deny others their rights.

In addition, there is another such broadcaster in this area, a Christian station, so there is no denial of access to the airwaves for what ostensibly Joy Broadcasting intends.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg
Harold Weisberg

Doesn't want to miss programming of WJHU

FM88

You recently reported the coming of an unidentified local FM station to broadcast "Christian music" at 88 on the dial. This account also stated that this station would interfere with an unidentified FM station in Baltimore and that an adjustment in the signal of the coming local station was made to limit the distance it would reach east of Frederick.

Johns Hopkins University operates WJHU at 88 and thus, it would appear, that the entire Frederick area would, if these two stations will be on the same frequency, be denied access to what is provided by the university, both information and music.

Without doubt there will be interest in the programming of the coming local station but there is also interest in what is provided, often uniquely, by the university. Cannot the frequency of the coming local station be shifted so that we will not be denied the opportunity to receive the excellent programming of WJHU if, as appears to be likely, that is the station we will no longer be able to receive? (WJHU, by the way, has a very strong local signal.)

April 9, 1987

Mr. Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Road
Frederick, Maryland 21701

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

Thank you for your letter of April newspaper article. I have not seen WJHU so cannot respond to it, but straight about the unusual situation a

HAROLD WEISBERG
Frederick

The FCC has allowed two stations to frequency, 88.1 MHz, at somewhat sh other. In order for this to happen, here and Joy Public Broadcasting in Frederick, had to agree to operate with highly directional patterns, in order to reduce their power output, and thus the interference they would provide, in the direction of the other.

Harold: Why don't you write the FCC and FAA if you have a valid complaint? Regards. DW

Hopkins built its station, WJHU, and it went on the air in October of 1986. Joy has not yet built its station, and in fact its construction permit has expired. WJHU, for its part, would like nothing better than to find that the FCC has cancelled Joy's permit -- which would perpetuate the current situation in which listeners near you can enjoy, and perhaps support, our programming. Our attorneys in Washington have taken every possible measure to demonstrate to the FCC that Joy has been negligent. The FCC wheels turn slowly, and we cannot predict when this situation will be resolved.

So any reference made to a "deal" is really incorrect. The FCC would not allow WJHU to operate unless we agreed to protect the Frederick allocation; it will not allow Joy to operate their station unless they agree to protect us. And you are able to receive WJHU only because Joy has not built the station for which it had, for several years, a valid permit.

Please call or write if you desire further information. In the interim, enjoy our programming while you can.

Cordially


Dave Creagh, General Manager
WJHU-FM

FM88-WJHU

Listener Supported Radio from The Johns Hopkins University

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HAROLD WEIS

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