

STATION: KARN-AM 920, Little Rock, Arkansas

SLOGANS USED: "The Gentle Sound of KARN," "The News Authority" and "Your Sporting Authority"

DATE: Feb. 14, 1977, 4 p.m.- 5 p.m.

DIGITIZED: May 11, 2025 by Michael Hibblen

SOURCE: Cassette from Russell Gay, the son of Robert Gay who was Program and Music Director of KARN in 1977.

An hour of the easy listening music format interspersed with a local newscast anchored by News Director Bob Corbet, a national newscast from NBC Radio News and race results from Oaklawn Park in Hot Springs. The live announcer providing race results, time and temperature never uses his name during the recording, but might have been Chuck Stephens. There is no back announcing or introduction of the music. I used Shazam to try and identify the music, but some songs were too obscure.

Side A:



Commercial: Craig O'Neill for Biff's Coffee Service

4 p.m. A live legal ID with the slogan “The News Authority” and introduction of local news anchor Don Corbet. The newscast was branded ARN News going into commercial breaks, but this seems like a local newscast rather than the state newscast as it ends with Corbet giving the local weather forecast and one of the commercials included is for a Little Rock insurance company. News stories:

- An Arkansas Senate committee passed Sen. Ben Allen’s home rule plan, which was aimed at decentralizing power and increasing local control over government functions. He called it a viable alternative to Gov. David Pryor’s home rule plan, which was rejected that day by the House. A soundbite of Allen was included.
 - Commercial break: Creamotion cough medicine
- U.S. Sen. John McClellan participated in a groundbreaking for a facility in Little Rock that would build jets for the Coast Guard.
- Batesville’s mayor was considering a lawsuit against environmental regulators to keep the city’s dump open.
- Former *Northwest Arkansas Times* Publisher George Garhardt died unexpectedly during a trip to Dallas, with a report by Dave Henderson.
- Garland County’s sheriff said he has a suspect in a recent homicide.
- The Arkansas Senate approved a proposal for a new junior college in West Memphis, which was not supported by Governor Pryor.
 - Commercial break: Rebsamen Insurance
- Agriculture markets report from Bob Brice, then local weather

Oaklawn Park 5th race results, sponsored by Horne’s Men’s Store

INSTRUMENTAL: Floyd Cramer — “Theme From ‘Love Story’”

VOCAL: James Last — “Wedding Song (There Is Love)”

Commercial break:

- Green Thumb Nursery at Fair Park and Asher Avenue in Little Rock
- Kraft Macaroni and Cheese
- Fortner’s TV and Appliance on Mabelvale Pike in Little Rock
- Live PSA encouraging people to have regular medical checkups

INSTRUMENTAL: Unknown artist and song

VOCAL: Unknown artist — “Special Angel”

Commercial break at 4:21 p.m.

- Channel 4 Eyewitness News: Assignment Editor John Hutchins previews stories coming up on its 6 p.m. newscast, including Little Rock Police facing charges in federal court and a reference to Debra Mathis covering a “gruesome” trial in

Danville. The commercial has a great jingle at the end singing "Channel 4 Eyewitness News is everywhere."

- Avis Car Rental
- Nunally's Candy on Valentines Day
- Local weather forecast

INSTRUMENTAL: Unknown artist — "Strawberry Fields Forever"

INSTRUMENTAL: Ronnie Aldrich and his 2 pianos & London Festival Orchestra — "Baby I'm a-Want You"

INSTRUMENTAL: Unknown artist — "Where is the Love"

Side B:



Craig O'Neill commercial for Spring Hill Manor in Bryant

Oaklawn Park 6th race result

Commercial break:

- Volare station wagons, Sid Haden Incorporated in Little Rock
- GREAT KARN jingle! "Little Rock's gentle sound, KARN 920"

INSTRUMENTAL: Percy Faith — “Mon Oncie”

VOCAL: Unknown artist – “Never Can Say Goodbye”

INSTRUMENTAL: Unknown artist and song

Commercial break at 4:43 p.m. with a preview of KARN's “Afternoon News Recap” at 5:05 p.m.

- Arkansas Fishing Academy
- Browning's Mexican restaurant at JFK and McCain in NLR
- Medic Pharmacy on Rodney Parham in Little Rock
- Weather forecast

INSTRUMENTAL: Martin Denny — “Amy’s Theme”

INSTRUMENTAL: The Romantic Strings Orchestra — “Poor Butterfly/ Pauvre Butterfly

INSTRUMENTAL: Unknown artist and song

Commercial break with a PSA about energy usage, limiting travel to conserve fuel and encouraging the use of weather stripping.

- Rector Phillips Morse
- Hot Springs National Park
- Royal Castle restaurant in Hot Springs
- Live promo for the “Afternoon News Recap” with Don Corbit at 5:05

VOCAL: Manny Kellem and His Orchestra — “Trains and Boats and Planes”

INSTRUMENTAL: Percy Faith — “Blowin’ in the Wind”

Commercial break

- Trailways Package Express

5 p.m. legal ID, NBC Radio News with the lead story being about a shooting in New Rochelle, New York by a former employee at a moving and storage company.

For background on KARN at that point, here’s the station’s listing in the 1977 Broadcasting Yearbook:

KARN(AM)—1928: 920 khz; 5 kw-U, DA-N. 1001 Spring St. (72202). (501) 376-9292. Snider Corp. (acq 2-10-72). Net: NBC, Arkansas Radio. Rep: Blair. Format: Easy listening. ■ Ted L. Snider, pres; Harris Owen, opns mgr; Louis Seymore, sls mgr; Robert Gay, prog & mus dir; Larry Duke, gen & coml mgr; Don Corbet, news dir; Jim Cope, chief engr. ■ Rates: \$22; 17; 20; 16.

KKYK(FM)—Co-owned with KARN(AM). Dec 17, 1973: 103.7 mhz; 95 kw. Ant 1,510 ft. Stereo (501) 376-8444. Net: Arkansas Radio. Format: Rock. Spec progs: Farm 2½ hrs wkly. ■ Cal Arnold, gen mgr. Progs sep from AM. ■ Rates: \$20; 25; 30; 30.