

# *OU radio station close to starting another era*

## Teacher thinks KTJO may operate next month

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As a hip disc jockey might phrase it, Ottawa University appears close to getting "a blast from the past."

KTJO, OU's student radio station that hasn't operated since 1985, may begin broadcasting as early as late November, school officials said.

Barry King, OU assistant professor of communications and KTJO faculty advisor, said the station lacks some key equipment — like a transmitter, tower and antenna. Still, KTJO cleared a large hurdle in May when it received its operating permit from the Federal Communication Commission. The station, which already has most of its studio equipment in place, first applied for its permit in January, 1989.

A 1965 OU graduate is helping KTJO in its drive to get back on the air, King said. Ben Weiss, operations manager for KMXV-FM in Kansas City, Mo., is try-

ing to secure bids for buying and installing the transmitter, tower and antenna at his old school.

King, now in his third year at OU, is optimistic KTJO will be alive and pumping by late November or early December. The station is located on the second floor of Behan Hall.

"It's been extraordinary," King said. "The students are marvelous. The sad thing is a lot of people who helped build the foundation for the radio station... graduated without ever seeing the completion of it."

King said buying and installing the transmitter, tower and antenna will cost about \$20,000. However, King and new OU provost Stephen Markwood said the purchases were not to affect tuition rates.

Markwood said OU received donations from the Class of 1942, an anonymous donor and the OU telephone fundraiser to cover part of the expense. The rest of the money is to be paid from the radio budget. Mark-

wood agreed KTJO could be operational as early as November.

KTJO will broadcast at 88.9 FM and is to play primarily Top 40 music, King said. However, there are plans to broadcast regular "specialty" music shows, including contemporary Christian, jazz and "oldies." In time, King said, KTJO looks to broadcast OU athletic games and other campus events like concerts or speakers in the University Program Series.

King also mentioned a potential show dubbed "professors' closet," where OU instructors could spin their favorite music.

He estimated the broadcast area for the 100-watt KTJO would expand to about five miles outside city limits. Tentatively, KTJO plans to broadcast from noon to midnight every day except Saturday.

An 18-year broadcasting veteran, King said 51 students — about one-tenth of the campus's enrollment — are in the radio station class. Twenty-five are communication majors. KTJO is set up like a commercial radio station and entirely staffed by students, King said.

Currently, students are pre-

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