

Section Meetings

Atlanta, March 13, 1989 — Three short segments were on the agenda for the Atlanta Section's March meeting. Section Chairman Paul Hogan, Tektronix, Inc., showed a videotape of highlights of the 23rd Annual SMPTE Television Conference, and the Association of Independent Commercial Producers presented a promotional tape of the best work of its Southeast chapter members. Doyle Thompson, the Weather Channel, discussed his company's technological history and spoke about the current status of the Weather Channel's production and distribution engineering. The group of 35 then toured the Weather Channel's new headquarters. — David E. Priester (Secretary/Treasurer), Georgia Power Co.

Atlanta, April 10, 1989 — Charlie E. Spicer, NBC, spoke about the network's coverage of the Seoul Olympics at the Atlanta Section's April meeting. The meeting, held at Technical Industries of Georgia, Inc., was attended by 28 people.

In a speech he called "Television from a Parking Lot," Spicer explained the technical innovations used by NBC to cover the 1988 Summer Games. He also explained the methods used to transmit the Olympics around the world, including the complications of stereo audio and the satellite switching systems involved. The audience was particularly interested in the handling of the enormous routing requirements. — David E. Priester (Secretary/Treasurer), Georgia Power Co.

Hollywood, March 9, 1989 — D-2 format specifications were discussed at the Hollywood Section's March meeting, held at

CBS Television City. Steve Carr, Sony Corp., explained the D-2 composite digital recorder, using excellent slides to compare it with 1-in. C-format recording. He compared error-correction techniques and concealment in D-2 with analog techniques, showing the major differences.

Bruce Lilly, Sony Corp., cited the advantages and disadvantages of digital and analog operations and spoke about the applications of D-1, specifically as a library and effects device.

Lilly and Carr reviewed the new Sony DVR-10 recorder, highlighting its RS-232 interfaces. The unusually large attendance at this presentation, 249 people, indicates the high level of interest in this new technology. After the presentation, many questions from members of the audience were answered. — Michael V. Chewey (Secretary/Treasurer), Bremson Data Systems.

Houston, March 15, 1989 — Marty Kirkland, Pearlman Productions, gave a detailed tutorial on the differences between analog and digital signals at the Houston Section's March meeting, held at Pearlman Productions. Roger Miller, Ampex Corp., explained the historical development of the D-2 format and the processes involved in designing the tape stocks necessary for the newest demanding formats.

The VPR-300 videotape recorder was demonstrated by Hugh Peavy, Ampex Corp. The machine has four audio channels, instant-start capabilities, three different size cassettes, and 60X fast forward and reverse shuttle speeds with discernible color pictures. After the demonstration, the 45 attendees were given an opportuni-

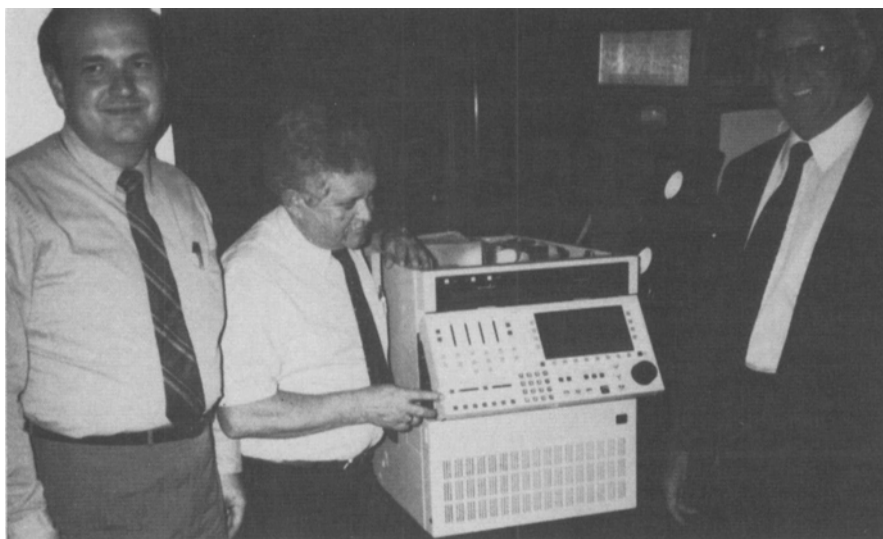
ty to experiment with the equipment. — Robert Musburger (Secretary/Treasurer), University of Houston.

Rocky Mountain, February 16, 1989 — HDTV's effect on transmission was discussed at the Rocky Mountain Section's February meeting, held at Television Technology Corp. Byron St. Clair, Television Technology, gave a short tutorial on television transmitter design and discussed the ramifications of using additional spectrum in proposed HDTV and EDTV transmission. Howard McClure, Television Technology, spoke to the 15 attendees about transmitter basics and the considerations of proposed HDTV designs on transmitters and transmitter systems. A tour of Television Technology's manufacturing plant and the CAD/CAM engineering design area followed. St. Clair noted that if HDTV is used as it is currently proposed, the waveguides between the transmitters and the antennas could need reworking. — Jim O'Brien (Acting Secretary/Treasurer), RIA Corp.

Rocky Mountain, March 20, 1989 — Electronic news gathering was discussed at the Rocky Mountain Section's March meeting. Jim Lilja, KMGH-TV, presented the manager's viewpoint of ENG productions, especially the logistics of distant-city ENG. He has been in this business since 1961, when black-and-white was still the primary medium. Vernon Thiyman, KMGH-TV, discussed the repair and maintenance aspects of ENG, concentrating on the proper care of NiCd batteries. After spending 37 years in engineering, Thiyman adopted the motto "When the news breaks, we fix it." The 35 members and guests were given a tour of the KMGH-TV studios after the presentation. — Jim O'Brien (Acting Secretary/Treasurer), RIA Corp.

San Francisco, March 28, 1989 — A new film edge numbering system was discussed by Tom Kuhn, Eastman Kodak Co., at the San Francisco Section's March meeting. Kuhn read a paper that had been presented at the 130th SMPTE Technical Conference and Equipment Exhibit. He spoke about an edge numbering system called Keycode, which consists of visible key numbers and a machine-readable bar code on the edge of the film.

The key numbers are used to match original negative and intermediate films to edited workprints, as well as to interface with time code for film and tape interchange. The system is currently limited to 35mm film; 16mm film is being considered.



Speaker Marty Kirkland, Pearlman Productions, (left) with Hugh Peavy and Roger Miller, both of Ampex, who demonstrated the Ampex VPR-300 at the Houston Section's March meeting.