Reviewer claims KRBE lowbrow, remains uninspired by Billy Hargis

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Thresher Music Reviewer

One evening a couple of months ago, I turned my FM radio to KRBE to hear what I thought would be a Mozart symphony. But to my disenchantment, what was playing was a Mantovani-like record in a program of “music for night people.”

The weeks since have unfortunately confirmed the suspicion: the KRBE broadcast day is now thoroughly diluted with “light” and popular music. In short, the feeling here is that KRBE has lost the right to call itself the “Concert Sound.”

Other troublesome features characterize even the station’s classical segments. Series of commercials often run for five minutes or so, extolling such absurdities as the “drinking man’s diet” and a “country club of the sky.”

Rights in Monaural

A half hour morning segment each morning is devoted to programs featuring Billy James Hargis and “The Conservative Viewpoint.” Worst of all, the station doesn’t seem to be broadcasting in stereo any longer.

The question then remains:

“To whom is KRBE programming geared?” I certainly don’t know.

KLEF Better

In contrast to the present policy of KRBE is that of KLEF. KLEF is an excellent all-stereo and all-classical radio station. Its commercials are low pressure, its music announcers knowledgable, and its programming consistently good.

Special features of the station include the KLEF Klassics Kwiz, through which many a Rice student has enriched his record collection, and the Sunday night Houston Symphony Preview.

Misc. Musical Notes

February, 1967 will be a landmark in Rice musical history. The Shepherd School of Music is sponsoring the famous harpist Nicanor Zabaleta. In addition, the SCB presents two of the world’s greatest guitarists: Australian classical guitarist John Williams and jazz guitarist Charlie Byrd.

The flamenco demonstration at Hanszen College last Friday was well received. Credit is due the college and its culture impresario, John Dunlap, who, it seems, is planning further musical treats.