

# New TV station faces protest

**By MARK FRITZ**  
Collegian Staff Writer

State College area television viewers may receive a new television station next year if its investors and planners can defend against numerous objections from a local radio station.

State College Communications Corp. (SCCC), owners of WRSC-WQWK, has filed a petition with the Federal Communications Commission asking that Nittany Communications Inc. (NCI) be denied the construction permit necessary to begin building the new station for a local channel 29. The petition, a 60-page document, details charges of inadequacies and misrepresentations in NCI's application for this permit.

Nittany Communications Inc. submitted with its application the results of a two-part survey of the general public and community leaders, an FCC requirement. SCCC says these surveys were improperly carried out, and the NCI has not established the actual needs of the community.

The petition states that NCI's surveys contain failures to comply with FCC rules that are "so numerous and so glaring that the applicant has demonstrated a basic ineptness inconsistent with its

desire to become a licensee of the Commission."

According to the petition, the FCC requires that the surveys be conducted by the NCI investors, by management-level employees or by a professional research service. But NCI, by simply hiring several students to do the survey, has invalidated it, SCCC said.

SCCC's petition also states that 46 of the 83 listed as community leaders in NCI's application do not meet the commission's definition of a community leader.

According to WRSC, heads of unions, political parties, church groups and student groups should have been interviewed. But, according to the petition, NCI principals apparently called friends and business associates resulting in an unusual number of doctors, stock brokers, bankers and engineers interviewed.

NCI president, Fred Nicholas, says that WRSC is nitpicking on technical details of the survey and that his estimation of who community leaders are is just as good as WRSC's.

In a voluminous reply, NCI lawyers have attempted to justify their selections of leaders by providing further details about each man's position in the community. They also note that one man who SCCC claimed was not a community leader, is in fact included in WRSC's own community ascertainment survey. NCI also has taken the option to amend their application by interviewing representatives

of community groups they may have neglected and by completely re-conducting the survey of the general population.

The petition also claims that NCI, in their application, overestimated their assets and underestimated construction costs. NCI denies this, saying that WRSC is "demonstrating a basic inability to perform simple mathematical calculations."

SCCC now has two weeks in which to file a counter statement to NCI's answer to the petition, allow the FCC to make their judgment on the basis of present information or withdraw their petition.

NCI also has filed a petition with the FCC asking that it deny renewal of WRSC-WQWK's broadcast license.

Radio stations are licensed by the FCC for three-year periods, after which the FCC reviews the station's operating policies to insure that they are fulfilling public interest. This month marks the end of WRSC-WQWK's renewal period.

The NCI investors say they feel the SCCC opposition is unfounded and motivated solely by a fear of the loss of advertising income.

The NCI's reply claims that Fred Zimmerman, general manager of WRSC-WQWK, has openly expressed fear of the financial repercussions of the proposed TV station.

Unless the FCC feels that NCI's complaint is unfounded, WRSC-WQWK will have to answer the allegations to the commission's satisfaction

before their license is renewed. The radio station can broadcast for up to three years while FCC hearings are pending, but the commission

is expected to make its ruling within a few months.

NCI investors complain SCCC's petition has been simply a delaying tactic



## Thefts total \$230 from V.A. building

Since Spring Term break, \$230 worth of equipment has been stolen from the Visual Arts building. David Donigney of the visual arts staff

switch plates and a canvas tarpulin also were reported missing.

Police Services said it has identified a custodian responsible for the theft of the canvas tarp.

### Police log

Wednesday reported to Police Services the theft of an electric potter's wheel valued at \$50, 10 bars of copper worth \$100, and 125 pounds of bronze valued at \$80. Thirty light

Ebby Fitzgerald, manager at the University laundry building, Wednesday reported a fire. Estimated damage to the building on Park Drive across from Beaver Field was

set at \$50.

Michael Fedor, Waring housekeeping supervisor, reported the theft of a 10-pound dry chemical fire extinguisher Wednesday, from Thompson Hall. The extinguisher is valued at \$53.10.

Anthony DeMarco (9th-individual and family studies) reported to Police Services Saturday that his roommate, John O'Donnell (4th-engineering) was threatened in Geary Hall by a white male with a rifle. Police Services investigated the incident but no arrest was made.

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