

Commentator presents good views over air waves

One day during Thanksgiving vacation about 2 1/2 years ago, I was lying in bed and I turned on the radio and this guy was yelling, and I thought, "Who is this nut?"

Then I heard him opposing the New York City gay community and their attempts to defame the Catholic Church. Then I thought that this guy made a lot of sense and I've listened to him ever since.

He's Rush Limbaugh, a conservative talk show host and commentator whose show is heard daily in Lincoln from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on KLIN (1400 AM). He is the most listened to radio talk show host today.

He doesn't just talk. He's also known for his "updates," in which his humor is evident. The latest absurdities by specific groups are shown, and he uses music as an introduction. Here are some examples: he uses Clarence "Frogman" Henry's "Ain't got no home" for his homeless update.

With every update, he tries to show absurdity

by being absurd. With the homeless, leaders like the deceased Mitch Snyder want the homeless to stay that way and that's wrong. Limbaugh thinks that the way to decrease the homeless population is to increase the chances that they will get jobs, and I agree.

Another popular update of his is the "Gorbasm," which is a play on words between Gorbachev and, well, you figure it out. A Gorbasm is, as he describes it, that feeling of joy you get when you think about all of the great things Gorbachev has done for world peace. Okay, you can stop laughing now. The music he uses as an introduction to this update is from "The Empire Strikes Back" when the Imperial Forces try to crush the Rebellion. Limbaugh is therefore comparing Gorbachev to Darth Vader.

He agrees with Dan Quayle when he talks about traditional family values and certain groups who try to tear them down. Here are some of these groups:

- The animal rights activists. These people,

Limbaugh says, seek to raise animals to humans in stature. But animals don't have rights, they have privileges. He and I agree here. He uses Andy Williams' "Born Free" for his animal rights update to show that animals do not have the same freedoms as man.

● The environmental movement. Rush calls them "environmental wackos." These are people who chain themselves to trees to prevent loggers from chopping them down as well as people who spike trees, injuring loggers when they try to cut them down. These people think the world is going to end so they go to extreme measures to make sure "evil" corporations can't "pollute" the planet's environment, like sabotaging their factories.

The opening music for each hour is by the Pretenders, and he has rock n' roll, jazz and pop as bumper music. He also has commercials like Spatula City, a fictitious store that sells nothing but spatulas, and Fur Cafeteria, where customers can eat all kinds of "critters," an in-your-face to the animal rights activists.

Limbaugh also believes that all these groups are striving toward the same goal, which is more socialism. How else can you explain Public Enemy, a rap group that speaks out against black oppression in America, protesting the building of a nuclear-waste dump in England?

He makes fun of Ross Perot. Whenever a caller mentions Perot's name, Limbaugh plays "When Johnny Comes Marching Home," calling Perot a patriot, but a patriot might not be fit to be president. Once he even used "The Wizard of Oz" to describe Perot, which I think fits better. The Wizard of Oz can supposedly solve any problem with magic, but it turns out that he's just an ordinary man, and that's Perot.

People may not agree with everything he says, but he's popular because his views are in line with most of the American people's and, at the same time, he's more entertaining than anyone else on radio.

Paul Robinson is a junior news-editorial major and a Daily Nebraskan columnist.



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