

50 Crazy Years in Broadcasting by Bryan Norcross

1980 – CNN Starts Up and San Francisco Calls

CNN, Atlanta and KGO-TV, Channel 7, San Francisco

THIS IS A SYNOPSIS – MORE TO COME

I received my Master's Degree from FSU in May of 1980, and, conveniently, Ted Turner was starting up CNN in June. The audition tape I made at WXIA-TV was apparently good enough to get me hired as the first weekend weathercaster on the network, which we called Chicken Noodle News. That's not to diminish the great people who worked there, but it was crazy.



CNN logo just before
sign on – June 1, 1980

Three months later, KGO-TV, the giant ABC-owned station in San Francisco, offered me the weekend weather job. I couldn't say no. So even though I knew nothing about forecasting west-coast weather, off I went. It was a turbulent time in the city – Mayor Moscone and Supervisor Milk had been shot in City Hall just over a year before, among other epic events. KGO-TV was full of spectacularly talented, outsized personalities. It's a crazy story.

Here's a YouTube video of a weekend show on KGO-TV in 1981. The great Ken Matz was the anchor.

Bryan Norcross on KGO-TV in early April 1981.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YHruxq6K8bM>

MUCH MORE TO COME

[Click to continue.](#) Up next: 1981 – EP at TBS and WXIA-TV weather