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Foothill College Loses Radio Talent Brian Conway

The United States Army lost a potential soldier, and Foothill's radio station lost a talented and respected broadcaster and writer recently, Brian Conway. Conway left for England to avoid becoming a soldier and to further his broadcasting career.

He is a British citizen, but a draft possibility hovered over his head while attending Foothill.

"I don't want to take that chance, so I'm leaving the country for a couple of years," he said. He said he didn't want to fight for a country of which he wasn't a citizen and only lived in for a few months. "I might as well go back to England and make some money." Conway's family moved to the U.S. last year on permanent visas which, he said, makes him eligible for the draft.

London is his destination, and working with the British Broadcasting Co. is his plan.

Conway first became interested in radio work at Foothill in September. He was green at the

outset, but a natural talent flared up to draw comments as, "He is exceptionally gifted; his talent is unmistakable," from station manager Ken Clark.

"One thing I will miss," said student manager Tom Howe, "I could always rely on him. If we lost a program, he would always come up with something to replace it, and his work was good."

"One of the best students I ever had," continued Clark. "You would give that guy an idea, and he would come back the next day — or hours later, if you needed — with a full half-hour script. His writing was professional."

Conway wrote and produced "The Age of Thunder," a documentary that is still being aired, and won a \$1,000 grant to KFJC. He was active in the KFJC broadcast of the British elections. Both Howe and Clark cited cases where he went to extremes of getting "just the right material" for his programs.

He left as the station's Assist-

ant Program Director.

"Foothill was great," he observed. "Never saw anything like it. I got a good idea what the American youth are like. They're not very responsible for too many things are given to them."

Upon graduation from high school in England, Conway then 16 years old, took a job as a commercial designer, which he held for two and one-half years before coming to the U.S. "In England, there isn't such a big emphasis on college. Employers would rather take a man with experience."

He came to the United States with the intention of getting a job, but found the tables of emphasis reversed, and decided to attend Foothill.

And if he returns, which he wants to do, he will this time get a visitor's visa with a work permit, which makes him immune to the draft. "A person should at least be able to stay here about two years and become a citizen before joining the army," he said.