

Student Union entertainment more successful this term

by Cathy McDonald

"Higher quality" entertainment events and fewer of them mark the elements of a successful term so far in the entertainment department. Student turn-out at events is much higher.

Findings by a survey compiled by Kevin Feindel, Entertainment Committee member, have directed the programmers to drop disco, and go for rock, new wave and Irish music. Ticket prices will be maintained at what is a reasonable rate. However, Marie Gilkinson, Entertainment Committee chairperson, says that more events will be "Double Deckers" or triple events, booking two or three bands at a time, so students will be getting more for their money.

"Students are looking for a bargain and something different", Gilkinson said.

A new idea is the "happy hour", where beer is sold at a reduced rate for the first hour of an event. Also, events are less frequent than every Thursday, Friday and Saturday night of each week as they were scheduled last term. "How long can you tax the same crowd?" Gilkinson asked.

A lot of this term's success can be attributed to Murdoch Ryan, Manager of the Student Union Building, who has taken on some of the responsibilities of former program director, Faye Pickrem.

"He's turned around the events", said Feindel, "We've made a lot of money."

"They didn't know hell's beans what to do with us", Jain said. As "guinea pigs" of the co-sponsoring idea, Jain said they suffered from lack of constructive help from Entertainment Committee, outlining what DAPS and DABS should be doing, especially when things weren't going well. Jain cited problems working with (former Program Director, Faye Pickrem, who has since resigned).

"It appeared to us that we weren't getting (program staff's) cooperation. They didn't want to recognize that we were promoting an event. Our biggest beef is that we should get recognition on posters that we are co-sponsoring the event."

According to Marie Gilkinson, problems are to be expected with the first trial. "We proved that it could be done and it's a matter of improving the system in the future."

A new proposal is now in effect with guidelines outlining what is expected of a society in terms of banners and posters to promote an event. The guidelines are not meant to limit the society.

"The society's got to really

Gilkinson hoped that council's decision would not effect the quality of promotion in the future by indicating the kind of effort that would warrant a financial bonus.

Champion speculated that council's decision made the point that "we are serious about changing the way entertainment in the SUB is directed, and are willing to provide the bills."

Champion said that the Programming department had



Since Murdoch Ryan took over the reins the deficit for Dalhousie entertainment has been erased.

promote it," Gilkinson said. She felt there was a misunderstanding with the Science Society that if the Downchild event sold out, that automatically indicated an excellent promotion job.

The basis for remuneration is defined in the new policy, as \$50, \$100 or \$150, depending on certain criteria.

Referring to DAPS and DABS promotional efforts, Feindel said "they didn't do that much work."

become too independent in deciding what was right for students. He was enthusiastic that through co-sponsoring events, societies will have more direct input in deciding types of events.

"The problem is changing the attitudes of full and part-time staff," Champion said there was hesitancy on the part of the programming department in relinquishing some of their responsibility and giving cooperation to co-sponsoring societies.

Council awards controversial bonus to Science Society

by Cathy McDonald

Student Council voted last Sunday to award the Science Society a \$320 bonus for promotion of last December's sellout Downchild Blues band, countering a recommendation by the Entertainment Committee not to make the award. Jeff Champion, Vice President of the Student Union, said the decision reflected council's support for the new policy for societies to co-sponsor SUB events along with Entertain-

ment Committee.

According to their agreement, the Science Society would receive \$100 for advertising and promotional efforts, plus 20% of the net profit made at the event if they did an exceptional job. According to the Entertainment Committee, the Science Society "did not do what any of us would consider an outstanding job so they do not qualify for the 20% bonus."

Umesh Jain, council representative for the Science Society, complained of a lack of clear guidelines as to what was expected of the promoters and problems in getting co-operation from the programming staff. The Dalhousie Association of Psychology Students and Dalhousie Association of Biology Students (DAPS and DAGS) did the promotional work as members of the Science Society.

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Applications may be picked up at Council offices Room 222 SUB and must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. Monday, Feb. 16.

Also Available Positions of

Open House 1981-82 Committee (2 members)

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Applicants should appear at Council meeting Sunday, Feb. 8, 1:00 p.m.

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SUNS is conducting a post card campaign to protest the recommendation of the MPHEC for a 12.6% increase in funding to Nova Scotia Universities. You can show support for this cause by filling out a post card available at the Commerce House.

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to begin organizing Dal Open House 1981
Deadline Monday Feb. 16 5:00 p.m.

For more information please drop in
Student Council Offices, Rm 222 SUB

Dal Student Union

Nominations now open for faculty representatives:

Howe Hall 1, Sherriff Hall 1, Science 3, Arts 2, Public Admin 1, Dentistry 1, Member-at-Large 1, Law 1, Health Professions 1, Nursing 1, Pharmacy 1.

Nominations also open for positions of Senate - 5, and Board of Governors - 1.

All nominations close Feb. 20, 1981 at 5:00 p.m.

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