

# Airwaves ripple with success

By Tom McNeill

CKDU—FM, Dalhousie's community radio station, successfully ended its second annual fundraising campaign Sunday with resounding success, surpassing its goal by over \$4,000.

With a goal of \$20,000 for the campaign, phone pledges amounted to more than \$21,000. Funds from two benefits added almost \$3,000, bringing the total to \$24,180.

The station will use money raised from the ten-day campaign to produce a regular program guide and is hoping to increase the station's radio signal to broadcast to a wider area.

CKDU, which bills itself as Halifax's alternative radio station, differs from other local stations both in terms of style and content. It offers East Indian, punk, reggae, jazz and rock music which can't be heard elsewhere. Because the station reserves 30 per cent of its rock music programming for Canadian releases, small independent artists are given the airtime they would not get on other stations.

Station manager Mark MacLeod says the radio's exciting, unpredictable, personality-oriented and chancy style prompted one listener to compare it favourably with Monty Python. The tempo of each program varies according to the personality of the host, ranging from low-key early morning shows to boisterous blasts of heavy metal at midnight.

CKDU also gives community groups access to the station to put on their own public affairs programs, rather than merely having people from the station report on different groups. Some of the sta-

tion's programs include: The Best Defence, dealing with peace issues; the environment program Ecology Action; The Word is Out, which presents gay and lesbian issues; The Chinese Red Dragon; and The Latin Quarter.

According to public affairs director Ken Burke, their shows received twice as much support as they did during last year's fundraising drive. Public affairs programs which generated significant support include The Latin Quarter, produced by the Latin America Information Group, and Titlewaves, which features interviews with Atlantic and Canadian authors.

Pledges ranged from 45¢ to \$107, including a donation from one listener's cat.

Staff at the station became discouraged during the first few days of the campaign when pledges lagged \$1000 behind projected levels. But spirits rose by late last Friday night when it became clear to fundraising director Scott Croucher that the goal was going to be reached.

The campaign was "frantic and often quite unpleasant, but

quite often exhilarating," according to Burke.

Lucky contributors received prizes, which included albums, books, and hamburger coupons. Those who contributed more than \$25 have a chance to win free trips, a compact disc player, and other grand prizes.

Benefit concerts in the McInnes Room and at Club Flamingo drew large crowds to see local blues and "alternative music" bands.

In addition to the official fundraising campaign, organizers are looking forward to good turnouts at a benefit dance at Rumours and a heavy metal concert at Club Flamingo this Saturday, where the band China White will donate its earnings to the station.

The station is looking at the possibility of attracting more business and corporate donors in the future.

After ten days of pleading for donations, MacLeod says the staff felt it was an exciting campaign which gave them a chance to see support for their individual programs — boosting morale as well as revenues at the station.



CKDU climbs high, surpassing its funding drive goal by \$4,000. Photo by Mary Sykes

## Peace protestors evicted

MONTREAL (CUP) — Three people who barricaded themselves in the office of the McGill University vice-president of research to protest renewed research of Fuel Air Explosives (FAE) on campus were thrown out by ten police early Sunday morning.

The group began the occupation of Gordon McLachlan's office March 3, and vowed to stay until the university's Board of Governors withdraws its approval of a contract with the Department of National Defense to conduct the research.

University officials said they did not plan to call in the police to have the protestors arrested, although MacLachlan said it was very unlikely that the board would reverse its decision.

McGill engineering professors James Lee and R. Knystautas have been conducting research into FAEs — the most powerful non-nuclear weapons known — since 1981. Their renewed contract was approved by the board in October.

FAEs have been decried by the Stockholm Peace and Research Institute as "inhumane and indiscriminate weapons," but the

researchers say their study may be useful in preventing industrial accidents caused by gas explosions.

Amy Kaler, a member of a McGill ad hoc committee opposing FAEs, said they are offensive and not defensive weapons. "Anyone who says these things have a defensive application, including the defense department, is lying through their teeth."

FAEs were reportedly used in Viet Nam, the 1982 invasion of Lebanon and in Afghanistan.

"They narrow the gap between nuclear and non-nuclear weapons," Kaler says "They are said to make good heads on cruise missiles."

The McGill student council recently endorsed the goals of the ad hoc committee, but did not endorse the occupation.

Kaler, a former student representative to the board of governors, said although she sympathizes with some of the protestors' goals, the occupation is "premature . . . the other avenues have not been exhausted."

The five people who originally began occupying the office are former McGill students and stu-

dents from other Quebec universities. "It's not just a student issue, it's a community issue," said protestor and former McGill student David Lennox.

MacLachlan cut off the telephone line to his office shortly after the occupation started. "I didn't want to facilitate their communication," he said.

The group, called Little Red Wagon, is asking for an emergency meeting of the executive of the board to reverse the decision renewing the research contract.

However, the five days notice are needed to call such a meeting, according to board secretary Nathan Moss.

And chair of the board Hugh Hallward said he would not consider calling such a meeting. "If you have people off the street occupying McGill offices, then the next step is anarchy," he said.

The protestors, who describe themselves as non-violent, were also involved in the direct action network that protested the arrival of Namibian uranium into the Port of Montreal this fall.

McGill students are organizing a demonstration to protest the forcible eviction of the protestors and to push the administration to cancel the research contracts

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