

Petition could close Ryerson radio station, CKLN

by Paul Waldie
Eyeopener

A petition signed by 131 students could force Ryerson's campus radio station, CKLN, to shut down.

The petition, organized by a group of engineering students, calls for cancellation of the \$8.03 fee each student pays to support CKLN. It also says CKLN should not be given space in the new student centre. "We should take the funding away from CKLN and put it toward something else," said Bruce Avery, the fourth-year aerospace engineering student who started the petition last fall. "We don't think CKLN serves the need of the students."

Avery said CKLN's programming concentrates on music most students don't like.

"They use our money to play stuff a very select number of students listen to like, calypso and ska," he said. "Not a lot of students are into that."

Avery handed the petition in to the Ryerson Students' Union office last week. The union is now in the process of verifying the names on the petition. If at least 100 of the names check out, the union will call a general meeting of students to deal with the petition. That meeting is set for April 9.

If students at the meeting vote to withhold fees from CKLN, a refer-

endum would be held in the fall, said Paul Rannie, RSU vp administration.

But, Rannie said nothing like this ever happened before, and he isn't sure of the procedure.

This week, the RSU's lawyers will examine the petition and all agreements between the student union and CKLN.

Marva Jackson, CKLN's station manager, said she had not seen the petition, and therefore could not comment on it. She referred further questions to Andrew Munger, a member of CKLN's board of directors.

Munger also said he wasn't aware

of the petition. However, he said it had faced similar complaints before.

"CKLN is controversial," he said. "If you're in the media, that's inevitable and healthy."

Munger rejected Avery's criticism that the station appeals to a narrow group of students. He said it is not supposed to be a mainstream station.

"CKLN exists as an alternative," he said. "Commercial stations play two to five per cent of the music available. We play the other 95 per cent."

Munger added that the station's licence from the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission limits its programming. However, he said the station encourages student input through a request line and open programming meetings. Munger said students can also voice their concerns at the station's annual general meeting, which is held each fall.

CKLN gets about one third of its budget from the \$8.03 fee every full-time student pays. The remainder comes from various grants, advertising and fundraising revenue.

Course evaluations come to Laurier

by Cathy-Jo Noble
The Cord

Laurier students may have a better way to choose classes next year.

The WLU Students' Union course evaluation project will provide students with candid reviews of courses offered at WLU.

The success of the project counts heavily on volunteers from the university community.

"This is the first time such a program has been tried at Laurier, and so far the response has been great," said WLUSU President Stuart Lewis.

The aim of the project is to make a "WLU Course Calendar Supplement," which will contain the opinions of students about courses they have taken. This will help other students decide which courses they want to take, and what to expect from them.

To gather opinions, surveys are being given out to interested students to take to their classes and get filled out by classmates.

The results of the surveys will be compiled in the summer and the booklet should be ready for September.

It is uncertain at this time as to what form the calendar will finally

take, but WLUSU hopes it will be a booklet provided free to all students.

"We want to cover as many courses as we can, and hopefully in time, all courses will be in the calendar supplement," said Dana Pesce, co-organizer of the project with Melissa Blease.

The surveys include questions on the instructor's teaching abilities, level of difficulty, interest, and reading material. There are also open-ended questions concerning features the students like and/or dislike about the course.

The surveys are to be done outside of class time so it will not interfere with the class nor require to professor's permission to do it.

"It is a fact that the 10 minutes between classes belongs to nobody, and can be used to fill out the survey," Lewis said.

Department of Political Science chair, Barry Kay, feels that this type of survey must be approached with a great deal of caution.

"In principle I think student evaluations can be a good idea if in fact it is properly undertaken," Kay said.

Kay also said that it was a case of poor judgment for the committee to state that the professor's permission is not necessary. For the first year, at

least, the professor's decision should be respected, Kay added.

Pesce explained that the reason it was decided to by-pass professors' permission was so that students would not feel intimidated by their professors.

"The survey is not out to hurt anyone," Pesce said. "But I can understand how some professors may feel threatened."

Kay also had concerns about running the survey so late in the year, when class attendance is generally very weak.

He felt that the open-ended questions could also be a problem since the results will be open to different interpretations.

Pesce said that this should not be a problem, since so far the results of the surveys have been quite consistent.

A test-run of the survey was done with the political science department earlier this year.

The actual survey in place now is the result of an analysis of the test-run results, which found the questions that yield the best results.

"We handled the organization of the programs very professionally by having the test-run," Pesce said. "We also had a lawyer check out the survey before distribution."

Frat in trouble

by Gary Davies
The Gazette

A Delta Upsilon fraternity songbook containing violent and sexist lyrics found at the University of Calgary may be similar in tone to the lyrics in songs at Western's DU Chapter.

The book, "A List of Fine Songs of Delta Upsilon," contains nine sing-a-long songs, four of which graphically describe sexual violence against women.

Two of the verses which raised a furor were published last Thursday in the university student paper, *The Gauntlet*.

The songbook was dropped off anonymously at *The Gauntlet* by a male student who found it at the student centre, said co-editor Robert Jobst.

The police are not conducting an investigation, but the women's centre at the University of Calgary is attempting to conduct a dialogue with the fraternity.

But a member of DU at Western who wished not to be identified said they do have a songbook with some sexist lyrics, although he said it is not a nationwide publication.

Another former Western member said he did not recognize the particular verse but said he remembered several "sexist songs" from his period of membership.

The president of Delta Upsilon at the UofC, James Robertson, said he had never heard of the songbook before this.

Robertson said following an internal investigation by the fraternity, it was determined only one copy of the songbook existed. He added the executive member who owned it has since resigned.

But a member of the DU chapter at UofC who wished not to be identified said he is familiar with the songbook in question.

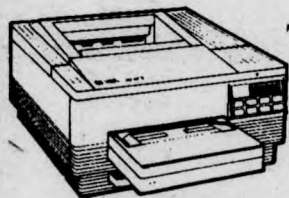
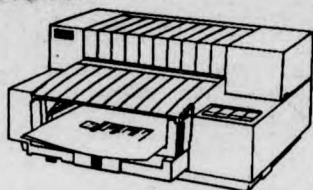
"We have a lot of songs (with sexist comments)," he said.

Julie Glasn, secretary at DU headquarters in Indianapolis, said a nationwide songbook does exist, but it does not contain sexist or derogatory remarks.

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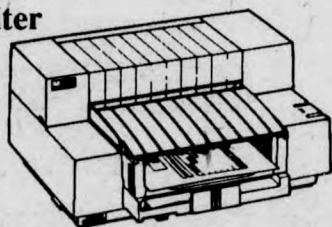


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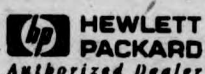
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