

CHSR costs should be paid by SRC says President

This week Forum discusses CHSR and the residences. Contributors are Chris Fisher, SRC Comptroller, and John Cleland, house president of Neville House.

Since CHSR (or Radio UNB) was founded 12 years ago, each person in residence paid \$1 for receiving the campus station. CHSR used to broadcast through a closed circuit speaker system until this summer, until it switched over to limited area AM broadcasting. All this means is that now the old speakers aren't of any use, and to pick up CHSR you have to have your own radio.

As a result of all this, the residences - some of them anyway - have refused to pay the \$1 a head fee for CHSR. All of which places the future of CHSR in potential doubt.

Should the residences pay up? Chris Fisher argues for; John Cleland argues against.

By JOHN CLELAND

To begin with, this article expresses not only my own personal views but the views of Neville House in general. The whole problem started with a mistake on both Bill Akerley's (former director of CHSR) part and the present Residence Representative Council. Mr. Akerley should not have spoken to the old RRC. What CHSR had to negotiate about had nothing to do with the old RRC but with the present house presidents.

The present RRC did not look at the past minutes of the RRC and did not therefore know about any agreement with CHSR. It was not brought to our attention until September and by that time our Residence, at least, had decided on our budget. To alter our budget might have been detrimental to the house. At a meeting last September with the SRC, CHSR, and a few house presidents, Mr. Akerley said that he was not going to run down to the Residences every time there was an election. If he was not interested in us then, why now? After all, we are the audience for CHSR (providing one has a radio).

At a well-attended meeting in Neville House on Oct. 10, 1972 the following discussion arose between Messrs. Ashton (SRC Finance Chairman), Akerley, Peter Downie (present CHSR Director), Doug Bearisto (CHSR Technician), and Neville House members.

At first Ashton demanded that Neville follow suit with various other houses in the residence

system and pay the customary \$1.00 per head for each house member from house funds. Since CHSR had to have funds early in the year to enable it to broadcast, the SRC had come to the rescue and given it the \$1500.00 (an approximate figure quoted by Mr. Akerley) which the radio station claimed was its due from the residence system, apparently with the idea that once things were settled in the residences, the SRC would then go around and collect the aforementioned dues from the residences. This was an act taken by the SRC and the responsibility for it lies with them.

Mr. Ashton's lordly manner did not, however, for understandable reasons, go over well with the House, and his ludicrous threat of having the SRC withhold the marks of the house members if the House did not pay was, just as understandably, roundly rebuffed.

Upon further inquiry into the exact nature of the financial relationship between CHSR and SRC it was discovered that any profit made by CHSR was channelled to the SRC with some - not all! - going back to CHSR. It was also discovered that at the time of the meeting the revenue expected of advertising by CHSR would equal, if not exceed \$3000.00 - another Akerley approximation, at least half of which was not budgeted for by the SRC) which would, of course, go to the SRC.

The result of this discovery was an argument by Neville that neither Mr. Akerley nor Mr. Ashton could sufficiently counter.

This was the question as to why should Neville give CHSR \$93.00 out of House funds, an amount not budgeted for, an amount which it would in no way recover financially, when the SRC could finance CHSR far more easily and at the same time recover not only its initial investment but also, if Mr. Akerley is to be believed, make at least a 100 percent profit?

The quality of the service rendered to the House members was also questioned. It was noted that house members with music systems of their own seldom, if ever, listened to CHSR. In addition, several rooms in the house have no radios. Should these House members be forced to pay for a

service of which they obviously make no use whatsoever? Perhaps Neville may be unique in this aspect, but we do not believe so.

The argument was presented on behalf of CHSR that it only serves the residence system and that residents should therefore pay for it. We argue that it should be financed by the SRC, and no threats by Mr. Ashton will change our minds. Every university pays SRC fees. If the SRC finances CHSR, and if one can believe Mr. Akerley's figures (after all who could be in a better position to quote them than Mr. Akerley?), the SRC would, through CHSR's operation, be making a profit, thereby benefitting every univers-

ity student, and not just those in residence.

Perhaps, in concluding, we should mention that while the House voted down a motion to pay the SRC from House funds, we did likewise with a motion denying any payment whatever. The House did, however, pass a motion stating that House members who wished to, could make contributions which would be forwarded by the House Committee to the SRC, and such was accomplished.

The writer is the president of Neville House, and has been involved over the past several months in the CHSR-residence dispute.

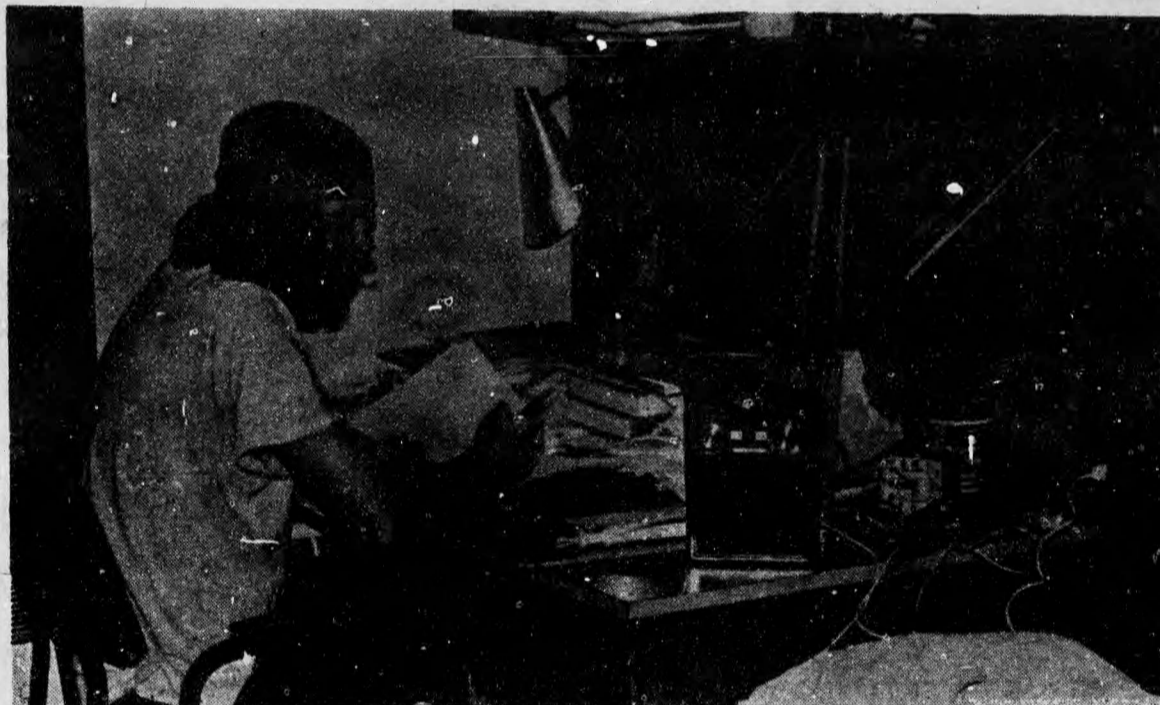


Photo by Kai De Freitas

There has been a lot of controversy between the Residences and the SRC this year about students paying \$1 for the 'privilege' of listening to CHSR. Many students feel that since they must provide their own radio, they needn't pay the money as in past years.

CHSR funding causes problem

By CHRIS FISHER

In the October 20th issue of the Bruns I explained the CHSR-residence dispute in quite some detail. In this article, I do not intend to dwell on the facts presented previously. The main intent here is to peruse again the reasons I feel why the residences should subsidize CHSR by \$1.00/head.

There was always some controversy by the residences over advertising. Advertising is high this year, due mainly to monies received from the two political parties for the Oct. 30 election. I have the feeling that the residences were under the impression that with this high advertising revenue, CHSR would make money.

This is not the case. If the

residences do not pay the \$1.00/head then the SRC is still subsidizing the radio station by \$2,000. Also, advertising is put into a special account and on or about Aug. 31 of every year (the end of our fiscal year), it is divided up between UNB and STU, using the formula STU students divided by UNB students multiplied by 100 percent. This works out that St. Thomas receives 21 percent of our advertising revenue. St. Thomas also puts in 21 percent of CHSR's operating budget as there are quite a few St. Thomas members in the radio station.

Another argument for the residences subsidizing CHSR is the fact that off-campus students do not receive CHSR service. If I am

an off-campus student, why the hell should I pay for something I don't receive? This is the major reason why the subsidization started in the first place 12 years ago. I don't think it is fair taking a certain portion of money out of off-campus students \$35 and putting it into CHSR. Yet we have to do this so the residences may obtain CHSR service. I think it's only fair that residences should pay to compensate for this imbalance.

Some people in residence were saying that they should not pay for something they don't want. They went on to state that we don't listen to CHSR; most of us have stereos etc. and therefore, why should we pay?

Well, maybe the trend in the residences is listening to stereos and they are getting away from the radio scene because they may not play their kind of music etc. I still think that the majority of the students listen to CHSR quite

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