

A look at the SRC's sound system

Everything you always wanted to know etc.....

by DAVID MILLER

In the spring of 1974, then part-time SRC administrator, Major Wayne Charters, came to the realization that the SRC was spending a great deal of money renting sound equipment from commercial operators in Fredericton and elsewhere. This sparked a consultation with various people in the SRC and at CHSR, and a recommendation came from CHSR that about \$2,000 be spent to purchase a public address system.

Under the guiding hand of Doug Bearsto at CHSR, the sound system has grown considerably in the intervening years. At the present time, the SRC owns three separate systems which can be used to accommodate anything from a disco in McConnel Hall to a party in the Student Centre.

This equipment is available to any UNB student organization and can be booked through the SRC office, where detailed booking forms are available. Consultation as to specific requirements can be done through the CHSR technical department. If the event in mind is to be free of charge, then the equipment is available also free of charge. Generally, if admission is charged for an event, a schedule of equipment charges applies.

Since 1974, approximately \$14,000 has been spent purchasing equipment. Rental charges to UNB student organisations, STU organization, and non-student campus organisations have returned about 40 per cent of these costs, in the system's five-year history. This does not take into account the fact that most student organizations use the equipment free. If they had to rent the equipment outside, a considerable sum would be incurred.

The system is managed and maintained by the CHSR technical department. According to System Manager Doug Bearsto, there were some 280 bookings last year which generated about \$2,500. In each of the four full years of operation, the number of bookings



Some of the components of the SRC's sound systems

has increased greatly each year, and this year should be no exception. Despite the large number of bookings, there have been few cases where an organization has caused damage. If, of course, happened that organizations have dropped pieces of equipment, causing serious damage, but most

organizations seem to be quite careful. The SRC has adopted a policy of building the system up on the basis of possible revenue generation. Thus the more use that is made of the sound systems, the more flexible will be the equipment available to student organizations.

GM transmissions defective?

More than three-and-a-half million late model General Motors cars may be equipped with defective automatic transmissions.

The transmissions, which have been installed in Chevettes and other "down-sized" GM cars since the mid-seventies, are not thought to pose a safety hazard, but are said to break down at least twice as often as other transmissions.

The Federal Trade Commission is investigating charges that GM may have tried to cover up the problem by resorting to a "secret warranty." The "secret warranty" is a time-honored auto industry method of dealing with defects. Instead of facing bad publicity or an expensive recall campaign, an automaker simply sends out a confidential notice to dealers - telling them to fix the problem without charge.

General Motors is not the only car company being investigated in

connection with secret warranties. The FTC is also investigating the Chrysler corporation, which allegedly tried to hush up a problem with rust-prone fenders. And the

FTC has accused Ford of applying secret warranties to more than six million cars and trucks with defective engine parts. (NDS)



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