

EDITORIAL

CHSR'S MANDATE

It has been bantered around a lot lately that no one listens to CHSR. This is not true. We at the Brunswickan have to. We are furnished with these curious contraptions with volume controls that pump music into the offices. These things cannot be switched off. Maybe they should place these contraptions in every building on campus and ensure that the lowest notch on the volume control does not kill the sound by any great degree. Perhaps that would be undue torture for those not inclined to listen to CHSR's programming but at least it would ensure that the decision is made based on something more than hearsay about what is aired on the station.

Indeed many students who haven't listened to the station argue that it plays too much of the loud heavy metal and atmospheric rock thing. Who wants to hear that in these moderate days? CHSR is perceived of as a station that airs music that would interest only the queerest of people. This is a misconception, but I don't blame the listeners for this. CHSR has not succeeded in informing those who don't listen to the station about the range of programming available. It is an understandable oversight for a media house. For some uncanny reason, it appears illogical to have to promote one's programming through other media, but it is the only way to go.

I remember receiving, some months ago, a press release and a number of posters promoting a special programme being aired on the local channel 10 community television station. They realized that as an alternate station they needed that kind of canvassing to create a wider audience. Sometimes I listen to special programmes on CHSR and ask friends about them. They usually never catch such programmes out of simple ignorance and they regret their loss greatly. There is some excellent programming on that station but nobody need be subject to listening to the eclectic range of interests represented on the station in the hope of by chance coming across a gem of a show. This eclecticism is necessary as it adds to the alternative label attached to the unit; but people should be given the chance to know what programmes are coming on before hand. A regular programme guide published in the Brunswickan or the Gleaner would be a wonderful start. I gather that plans are afoot to revive a station publication (a kind of newsletter) which will try to serve as a PR machine of sorts. These things must happen, and soon.

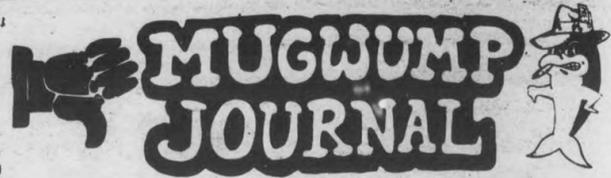
With regard to the actual programming of the station, there is much to be done. It should be of some concern that students appear to be unimpressed by the music on the station, but we must not overreact. If students are interested in top 40 material only, they won't get much from CHSR and they shouldn't. If they moved towards top 40 material they would go out of business as there are already enough professional units pumping out the stuff in this province. But there are programming ideas that could embrace some of the interests of students without defiling the mandate of alternative programming. Needless to say, such programming needs people who are willing to volunteer time and skills to make it all happen. Past experience in radio is apparently not a prerequisite for involvement in the station. My thinking is that students should just swamp the station and demand training. It could be really interesting.

Above all else, I think the station should remain as autonomous as possible in its management and direction. The continuity guaranteed by full-time staffers is enviable to many student groups. However, by ensuring that student representation is paramount in the decision making processes of the station, a constant service to the student community will be guaranteed.

CHSR costs the students a great deal of money, and the station is expected to seek as much as possible to reach students. If however, students do not want a radio station on the campus (woe the day), then there shouldn't be one. But the implication of this would be great. I am convinced that any self-respecting university should have a radio station ran by students. I, for one, have benefitted from working at that station. The training and practice in radio that I have received free of cost have been invaluable. I think other students should try and see what they can get out of the station as well.

So let's go back to those re-diffusion sets. Maybe we will be able to drum up some interest in radio on this campus.

Kwame Dawes
Editor in Chief



"Mugwump," I thought, "tee-hee-hee, what a humorous article. Most of the time well executed and interesting to read." "Miro!" screamed the mangling editor on Thursday afternoon, "You've been through enough issues... How would YOU like to write Mugwump!?"

Silence reigned in the office... "poor boy," I heard, "do you think he'll make it?..." "We lost three rookies last year"

That certainly didn't seem to be too assuring for me but I decided to tackle it anyway.

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An interesting week on our beloved campus: An international craft show (that no one seemed to know about), a rescheduled date for ROCKY HORROR (Yah!), and an absolutely hilarious evening of comedy.

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An excellent move by Campus Entertainment to bring back the side splitting troupe "Corky and the Juice Pigs" whom I've decided to speak about because the (get your priorities straight) exam schedule bumped my article!

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The musical talents, "The Barenaked Ladies", were humorous and fun and the comedy of Corky (proclaiming that we are all "Young and Stupid") was unforgettable...who was the sexual frog anyway? (Hopefully see my article next week.) Oh, and.. Thank You Nappy!

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Are computers really taking over the world? Artificial Intelligence, computer generated graphics? They even have a colour printer and scanner now that can duplicate money!!

All I know is that the brunswickan is virtually at a standstill if anything goes wrong with the Macs. (no one even knows HOW to use ye olde typesetting machines).

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Yes kiddies, the FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE is here and we all know what that means...only 2,073,600 seconds left until exams (ie. 24 days) and aren't we all looking forward to them!!

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Finally, on an absolutely wonderful note...Hungary, Poland, East Berlin, Czechoslovakia. Could this be a democratic "wave" hitting all of communist Europe? And what is West Berlin going to do with all of those Canadian NATO bases protecting them from Western Germany? You can't just send them all home. (Let's just hope that nobody's militia gets involved)

By: 
MIROSLAV
WIESNER

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P.S. An apology to all of you cynnics out there who are used to a bitchy Mugwump... I'm just a rather optimistic person.

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