

"CKDU-FM: think about it" :Wile

On February 20, along with voting in student council elections, the students of Dalhousie will be asked to give the Student Union some direction on the future of CKDU, the campus radio station and its bid to go FM in the next few years. In order to help students better understand some of the problems and potential for this very large effort, Tom Regan, representing the Gazette, interviewed station manager Mike Wile and talked to him about the future of CKDU.

Gazette: What purpose do you see CKDU fulfilling?

Wile: I think it can act as a tremendous communication link for the campus and with the city because the university does want to reach out to the community and I don't think it has been entirely successful.

It is a tremendous training ground. People more and more are originating class projects with activities at CKDU. For example, there is a person doing a paper for a religious studies program on the way people are so affected and fascinated by the Rocky Horror Picture Show. We are going to turn that into a report on the radio.

It's a tremendous learning experience. With myself, I did

not appreciate what classical music was before I came to the station. If you leave your mind open, you're going to learn a tremendous amount and this applies to all aspects of the station.

Gazette: What is necessary for CKDU to go FM?

Wile: We need new studio facilities. Some of the material we have now is usable but most is just too old. We need a low power transmitter and we need an operational budget that meets the requirements of the number of members that we have. That's basically it.

At the moment we are restricted by finances and facilities. I take great faith in saying that the CRTC, looking at an application like ours, would be most disappointed if we did not provide a forum for every possible area of interest.

Gazette: Why is going FM so important now?

Wile: When I and a lot of other people started here three years ago there was no semblance of programming schedule, of organizational structures and we worked for three years to prove that the need and the interests existed on the Dal campus.

We now feel that it is time to provide the service to the total Dalhousie and Halifax community. I think we are producing a product, if you will, that is very good and

which people want to hear.

Gazette: Michael, some people are very critical of the music CKDU plays, especially the classical and opera. What do you have to say to the people who are against this type of programming?

Wile: Well, first of all, as I said earlier, I know where they are coming from. I grew up in a family where no one listened to classical music. But through CKDU I was exposed to this music and I exposed myself to it out of choice and I found that I appreciated it. But I also add that I did the same thing with rock, jazz, folk, etc.

I hope people understand that we try to provide a full spectrum of where music has been, where it is now and where it is going.

On the very practical side, classical music has been easier and cheaper to produce. When I designed the programming schedule this year I wanted to assure that we were on the air as much as possible to provide a sense of continuity and allow those persons we recruit to join the programming as part of a daily schedule. If we had sources of free popular music programming that were as extensive, we would certainly expand into that area.

Gazette: If CKDU goes FM, will it remain a student run station?

Wile: According to the CRTC, stations that are licensed to student unions must have a student board of directors. I think it is obvious you need someone to co-ordinate such a large operation, but ultimately it is guaranteed that the students remain in control.

Gazette: How much money will it cost?

Wile: Our study compiled by Neil Erskine and Martin Sullivan indicated a price range of \$50,000 to \$75,000, as a one time investment. And then by having John Rude, SUB technical director, do some more research to try to economize where we felt we could, the figure is roughly around \$55,000, which is very reasonable. The original cost for CKDU was about \$30,000.

Gazette: To some people that must seem like a great deal of money. How will that money be spent?

Wile: To set up three studios and all the inherent gadgetry that goes into that, and our transmitter and the equipment that you need there. The \$55,000 is a one time investment and once that is out of the way our yearly budget would be in the range of \$30,000. I might mention that this figure is open to negotiation because the present council executive seems to feel we need a bigger operating budget. We would also

need money for capital depreciation. This is money put aside to replace old equipment.

Gazette: If you are given the money, how long will it take to convert CKDU into an FM station?

Wile: Taking into consideration negotiations with the Canadian Radio Television Commission (CRTC), the fiscal changes that have to be made, the revamp of the organizational structure of the station and adjusting the student union operations to the expanded CKDU, about three years. You can only move these processes so quickly.

Gazette: What kind of format would the new CKDU have?

Wile: I would like to see a great deal more input from the campus. It's already accepted that those who are involved with the radio station reflect their various interests and backgrounds. So, for example, we have music programmers who make their own choices to the kind of music that they play. But we don't, for example, feel we are representing interests like the foreign students. When you are speaking of a radio station like this, you are speaking of a station that should reflect as many as possible of the different interests on campus. There is room for all kinds of divergent interests.

Swallowed by Election Machine

by Immanuel Samuel

Relax; Ottawa's got everything under control. The federal bureaucracy has awakened from its post-election slumber of last May and is beginning to extend its imposing tentacles around the voting public.

Enumeration has begun once again and the federal bureaucracy has rocketed ahead with plans for a smooth and simple procedure to acquaint those who wish to vote with the voting procedure.

The first and foremost requirement is that each prospective voter who hasn't been enumerated purchase a sleeping bag, hibachi, and enough food for an eight day expedition through a variety of lines. Just pretend for the sake of your sanity that you're waiting to purchase tickets for a Rolling Stones' concert rather than a proxy to the party of your choice, to further bungle our economy and send our hard earned dollars down the bureaucratic drain.

You will be required to fill out approximately six forms and God-forbid if you fold, spindle, or mutilate any one of them! Besides, the government has a computer especially designed to mangle at least one of those forms for you. And whatever you do, don't step out of line!

If you've moved in the last two years, move back. The time you'll save in line-ups and paperwork alone will be well worth it. If you've moved in the last two months you

might as well sit this one out kiddo, cuz by the time your forms are processed it will be Feb. 18th, 1983. I moved across the street last week and decided to file my forms personally to avoid any problems. When I put them into the computer it sort of spudgered, let loose a low moan and then a funny white smoke billowed forth from the outtake chute. I never saw my forms again.

I suppose by now they've become fodder for Ottawa's IBM, but I can't complain. My phone and light bills were just sent to Wisconsin.

I now realize that I'm not the only person who experiences extreme hostility and frustration when entering a long, slow moving lineup. Someone behind me kept

yelling, "fire!", half hoping that the people ahead would panic and leave their place in line. Not a chance. After spending three days in the same line my addidas began to sprout little roots. The flames would have to be lickin' my ass before you could get this kid to cruise out of line. The fellow persisted in yelling "fire" until two people ahead of me took out rifles and shot him. Request granted.

I think it's fair to say that something is wrong with the system when the line-up adjoining mine sustained two fatalities. One make-shift harikari, which received a standing ovation by those in line for artistic interpretation. . . he'd used a plastic fork from the cafeteria, and one death attributed to old age.

It's time for a change in method.



SPECIAL OFFER!

\$1 OFF

LOOK!

on Pizza orders only

WITH THIS AD!!

MAXIMUM ONE COUPON PER PIZZA

(MINIMUM ORDER \$5.00)

Tony's

PIZZA, DONAIRS & SUBS

MON. - THURS. — 11:30 - 2:00 A.M.

FRI. - SAT. — 11:30 - 4:00 A.M.

SUNDAY — 2:00 - 12:00 A.M.

422-4833

(CORNER OF ROBIE & CUNARD)

2390 Robie St., Halifax

FREE DELIVERY AFTER 4:00 P.M.

(Just give this ad to our driver to get your \$1.00 off!)