

FORUM FIVE



Student radio

CKSR

A little-known fact around campus these days is that there is a radio station, owned and operated by the Students' Union, run specifically for the campus community. But by the look of things, this little-known fact could become common knowledge in short order.

The radio station is CKSR. The reason we will be hearing a lot from them this year is that they have finally been given the means to expand and revamp their broadcast facilities to the point where, as opposed to previous years, they can finally be heard as a radio station rather than as a jumbled Musak system such as you might find in your doctor's office.

Presently CKSR can be heard in numerous lounges across campus via a closed circuit broadcast network. However, come October, CKSR will become a licensed AM carrier current station and will expand their broadcast area to include the entire residence complexes and some 400 suites in HUB. This will increase their audience to between fifteen and twenty thousand listeners.

After having a look around the station last week, it certainly seems that the CKSR staff have been doing their homework. The physical change in CKSR is no less than impressive.

They have just finished installing a new four-channel recording console in their production control room as well as a new broadcast console in the on-air control room.

The two main studios have been completely recarpeted and freshly painted. Sort of sophisticated but homey, much like the general attitude of the station.

The physical changes seem to be only a small part of the new image CKSR has adopted. This year they will be making a special point of getting away from the bone-rattling top-forty format, putting the accent instead on polished FM programming.

This year CKSR will concentrate its efforts in two main areas of broadcasting. The most important aspect will be the on-air programming.



According to Jim Austin, station manager, and Dave Wright, programme manager, the format will consist of mostly music, substituting album cuts for previously used 45's. This will provide better fidelity and a wider variety of music.

The announcing staff will be encouraged to lay back a bit and to give more information behind the music aired.

Newscasters will emphasize campus news items and events of interest to students. The music will be basically contemporary, running the gamut from progressive rock, to folk-rock to blues and jazz.

A second aspect of this year's schedule will be produced programmes coming from CKSR's studios. Now that the production facilities are completed, you can expect to hear a wide variety of shows ranging from poetry specials to local musical productions, and just about anything in between.

This year CKSR will be working with a slightly smaller

staff than in past years. This will make it easier to create a more personal feeling over the air. It will also enable the present staff to spend more time training new staff in broadcast technique, something that was lacking in past years.

All in all, the station should have a fairly well-rounded sound for its listeners this year.

CKSR will require new staff starting mid-September. Anyone interested in on-air or production work is invited to call the station or drop by if you have a few minutes after the perils of registration, or whatever. Some previous knowledge or experience in the field of media would be an asset. However, in many cases a keen interest is pretty well sufficient.

If you need any further information, or if you'd just like to drop by to see what it's all about, you can reach CKSR at 432-5745. Or just drop by Room 224, SUB, just around the corner from the cafeteria.

Mantor remembers what it's like

Exactly one year ago, I was a freshman stumbling through the frustrating procedures of registration, bewildered and alone. I had come to Edmonton a few days before from Vancouver and, with one exception, knew absolutely no one in Alberta. As I look back over the past year, I realize that this has been the most rewarding year of my life.

It began when I noticed an ad in the *Gateway* for writers. From there I began to learn about the University administrative structure, campus clubs, CKSR and the Students' Union.

The more aware I became, the more interested and involved I became. I had the good fortune of meeting people from many different walks of life, some of whom became friends.

What I have learned this year cannot be measured by grade points or on a stanine curve, but I am convinced that my experiences have influenced my life.

The university provides a wide range of opportunities for one to learn, but the student must in each case, take the first step. If a student's only involvement at university is through his studies, I believe he is being cheated.

I would urge every student to find some activity outside his area of study and begin to enjoy what may be the most memorable part of his university experience.

The list of extra-curricular activities is as diverse as the people who make up a university. Within the Students' Union itself are scores of clubs, a student radio that not only wants you but needs you, a newspaper for which the same applies, a wealth of projects and a variety of activities.

The Students' Union provides a multitude of services of which a student may avail himself, including a pub in RATT, a record co-op in HUB, a liaison with fraternities who seek pledges and a comprehensive course guide that may aid students in choosing their classes.

Fraternities offer an excellent means for a student to make friends and engage in public services and activities. I believe that fraternities are one of the most rewarding ways to enrich one's university experience.

The *Poundmaker* is a community newspaper that has sprung from the staff of a previous *Gateway* and offers both campus and community news. They would also like to hear from students and seek contributors in the form of writing and lay-out.

General Faculties Council is always seeking students to help staff their many committees. In addition to GFC, the Students' Union is always looking for students to help with its many activities.

During your first few weeks on campus, you may be dazed and confused, but by communicating with one other individual who shares a mutual interest, campus life may be a little more enjoyable. The reasons to seek involvement are many but they are all to your benefit. You have nothing to lose and everything to gain.

If you have any questions about how you can locate an extra-curricular activity that will interest you, feel free to contact any member of the Students' Union executive at 432-4236 or simply drop in and chat.

NOTES

This space reserved for student comment