

CKDU needs you

by Jerry West

CKDU is not just different by chance. A lot of conscious decisions go into running a campus radio station, and in the last six years of FM broadcasting, they have offered things that other Halifax stations can't.

As a community station CKDU doesn't rely on commercial revenue, so there is no pressure to conform to mainstream guidelines. Programers can air shows as diverse as African Diary with Achille Orru, or Liz Van Berkel's Title Waves, a show about authors and literature. "You probably won't like everything we play, but we definitely play some things you'll like," says program director Jane Farrow.

But its not just that the station is free to deviate from the norm, they are legally bound. The Canadian Radio and Telecommunications Commission forbids a community station from playing more than seven hits a week.

This poses a number of problems like who gets to play the hits, and after you make a song popular how soon do you have to stop playing it? To deal with this, record charts have started listing college charts. This means that anything a university station plays has the potential to be listed on the chart, and therefore to become off-limits.



Joan MacGregor, Robert Jeans and Brenda Barnes discuss programming.

Student fees cover about half of the station's operating budget. The rest comes from sponsorship, the fees paid by DJs (\$8 for Dal students, \$15 for others) and of course the funding drive. The funding drive target this year is \$40 000.

which is almost 20 per cent of the operating budget. It is also the purpose of this article. If 200 people can donate their time to CKDU and pay a fee as well, surely you, the reader, can dig deep too. Dial and Donate 494-1991.

Who is Leslie Spit



Bill says

SO WHAT'S in a name? This particular band takes their name from the tip of land at the end of Leslie Street in East T.O. where the trio (which is sometimes five or more and a dog) originally played. No one is named Leslie, no one spits on you and the dog's name is Tag.

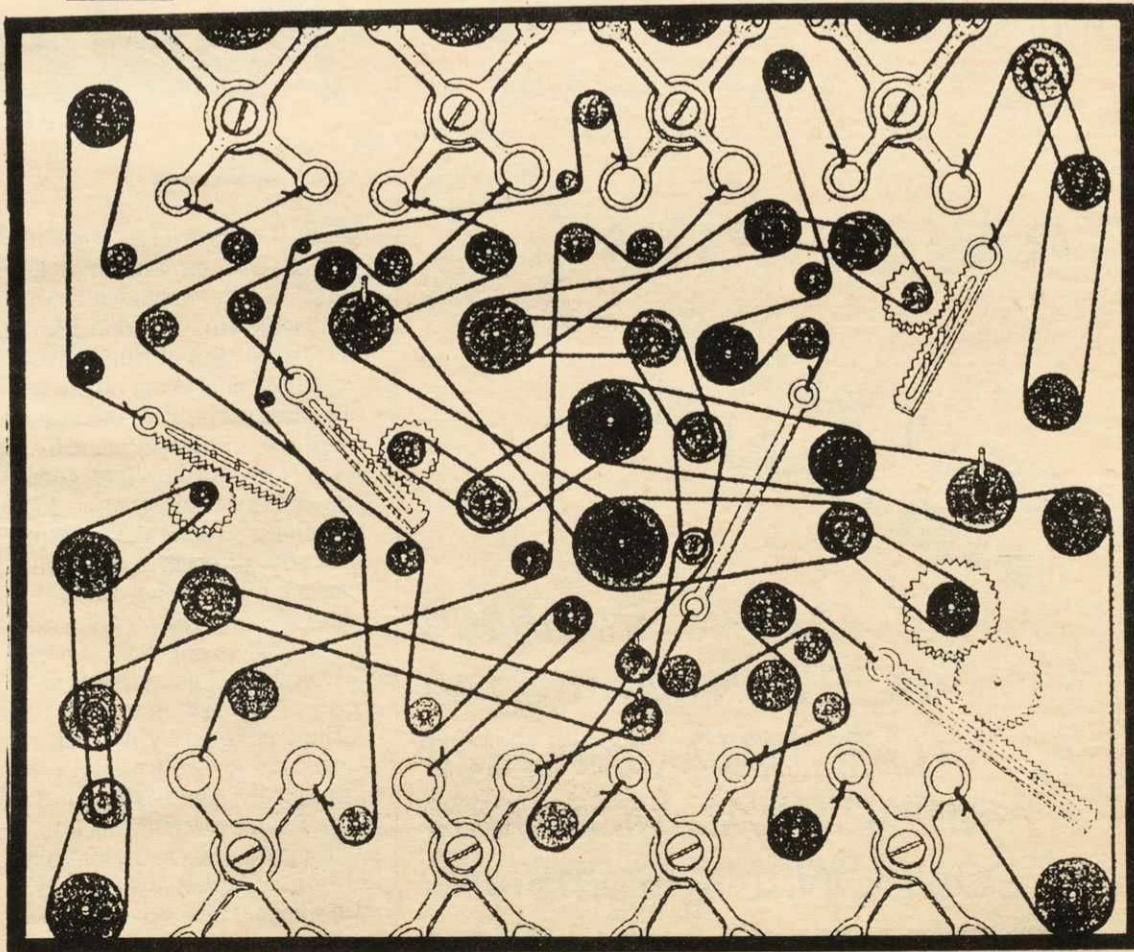
The Treo began as a busking act and soon became, along with The Shuffle Demons and The Razorbacks, one of Toronto's best known open air live shows. Fortunately, club offers soon arose and The Treo played them all, whether they were headlining or one of twenty acts in a show. And their music? How does "guerilla harmonies" grab you? Laura Hubert, the band's leader, likes to describe their sound this way: "What works, I think, is that the music comes organically. We understand harmony, but we don't just sit down and decide to do parallel harmonies here, thirds here and fifths there. We work it out by what sounds right."

The Treo's core consists of Laura Hubert, who received vocal training and stage experience in T.O.; Jack Nichol森, an actor from Alberta; and Pat Langner, a playwright and school chum of Jack's, also from Alberta. On street and stage this trinity rocks with their own version of John Prine's "Angel from Montgomery", soothes with "Moon at Noon" and can be down-right strange with "UFO (catch the highway)".

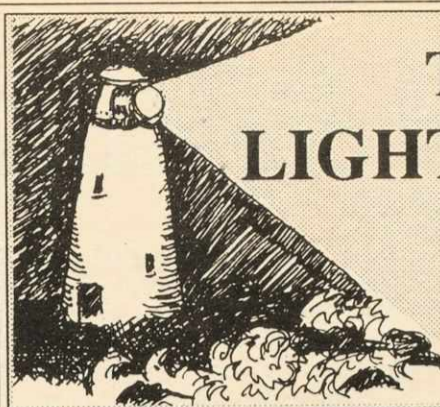
Not to go unmentioned, the album features the Treo's bassist Frank Randazzo as well as David Baxter and Chris Wardman (guitars), Jason Sniderman (keyboards) and Graeme Kirkland (drums).

The end results are unique: beautiful vocal tapestries soaring above the barbed wire of sometimes psychedelic rock rhythm guitars. So if someone tells you that The Leslie Spit Treo is a folk band, tell 'em Bill says have another listen. Let's try "folk/country/punk/rock band with a touch of a cappella."

See for yourself: the Treo will appear Feb. 1 at the Grawood in the SUB.



THE LIGHTHOUSE



Are you enveloped in a fog of confusion?

Lost in a wild sea of perplexities? Scraped and battered by those bothersome barnacles of life?

We in the lighthouse understand (or at least pretend to), and are willing to throw you a line (though we may not be holding on to the other end).

If you have any questions, quirks, quandaries or personal dilemmas worthy of contemplative discourse, perhaps we can show you the light... Please send all quizitive responses to: "The Lighthouse" c/o Dal Gazette, 3rd floor SUB.

Note: Overly sensitive or easily offended individuals need not apply.