

The Gateway



Heart to Art is the theme of an exhibition at the McMullen Gallery P 7

Ratings drive CJSR funds

by Stephen A. Noble

CJSR must attract an additional 10 per cent student audience or have its funding cut, says Students' Union VP Finance and current Board of Governors candidate Steve Twible.

In the past, the SU has "randomly" allotted a sum of money to give to the campus radio station, says Twible, adding that they receive approximately \$67,000; nearly 2/3 of the station's operating budget. He feels, however, that this procedure must change: "If the students are extensively funding the station then they better be listening. So instead of arbitrarily giving them money let's account for it."

Twible says that he has been approached by several SU politicians — whom he declined to name — complaining about CJSR's funding.

In order to justify CJSR's budget and to investigate the station's popularity, Twible instigated a telephone survey which randomly picked 500 names from the SU telephone directory.

The survey found that only 7.4 per cent of students actually listen

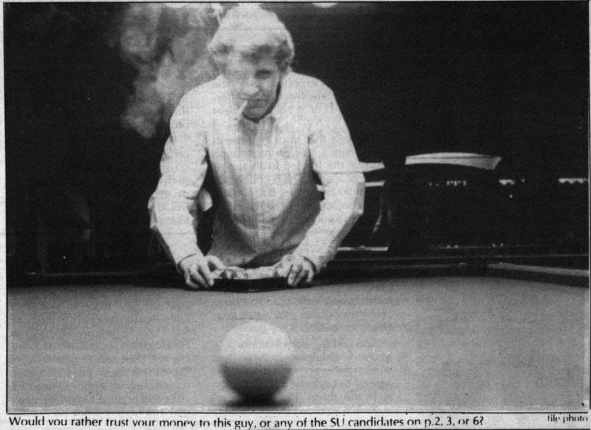
to the station; 4.2 per cent of those are regular listeners, whereas 3.2 per cent listen occasionally.

Twible feels that the time has come for change: "I don't want to see the station becoming more commercial. I want to see them becoming more successful. I think that by the policy of alternative music we've made the station anti-successful. Therefore, there has to be some changes."

"If CJSR doesn't respond the SU will cut their funding."

Ian Istvanffy, CJSR's program director, remains hopeful his budget won't be cut. "I'm obviously very surprised that they've found our listenership to be so low. I agree that we must pull more of our own weight. However, I am confident that the SU will continue to keep funding at the same level," said Istvanffy. "I get calls from people everyday who tell me that we are more accessible now. I'm confident that this time next year our listenership will be double what it is at the moment."

"Our mandate with the CRTC is to provide an alternative to what the commercial stations are doing.



Would you rather trust your money to this guy, or any of the SU candidates on p.2, 3, or 6? file photo

\$4 million more for student loans

by Roberta Franchuk

An extra \$4 million has been allocated to cover an unexpected increase in demand for student loans, Minister of Advanced Education Dave Russell announced March 3.

It had been estimated that 55,000 students would apply for loans for 1987-88. Roughly 58,000 applications were actually made. Last year, the total amount of money awarded was almost \$234 million, compared to a total for this year of over \$238 million.

Increased enrollments in post-secondary institutions and the poor economic situation are the reasons behind the increase in the number

of loan applications, said Jean Sprague, Acting Director of Program Services for the Student Finance Board.

"We have had an overall increase, plus we've had higher than anticipated numbers enrolling in technical school," said Sprague.

Sprague noted that despite the increase in applications, the size of the award has not changed significantly.

The Board has "no announcement" to make regarding possible tightening of eligibility requirements. Sprague declined to comment on the possibility of changes, saying only "we will continue with

our audit activity."

The SFB currently requires students to sign a waiver allowing the Board access to the student's tax return. This procedure was introduced last year to crack down on abuses of the system.

Jason Lucien, SU External commissioner, is "very happy to see more money in the system," but adds that the exact distribution of the money has not been determined.

"There's been no official announcement of the dispersal of funds," he said, "but we'll make sure that University of Alberta students get their fair share at the time of the announcement."



Sandy Stiff at the CJSR controls file photo

U of Alberta weathermen arrive

by Kerry Deane

The U of A is now the only University in western Canada to have a Department of Meteorology. A diploma in Meteorology is offered by the Department of Geography. It is designed for people who have obtained a B.Sc. from another university, but wish to upgrade their degree to the equivalent of a special certificate in meteorology.

The new program was designed with the Atmospheric Environment Service of Canada in mind, and it is recognized by them. The Service hires graduates with a B.Sc. Meteorology or its equivalent.

Other employers of meteorologists are the provincial government and consulting companies. A consulting company was recently employed to take wind measurements at Nakiska during the Olympics. Another way for graduates to increase their employment chances is to take the AESC forecasting course in Toronto or Montreal after obtaining a B.Sc. in Meteorology. Forecasting is not stressed at the U of A.

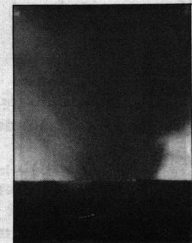
The diploma program was approved last fall and will come into effect next fall. This new diploma

allows the special certificate to return to its original concept, which includes a minimum residence requirement of two years at the U of A.

There is little difference between the special certificate and the diploma program. A specialization student must take six full meteorology courses in what is basically a physics degree without modern physics. A diploma student must take a minimum five full courses which are tailored to the student's needs, depending on his or her background. The specific requirements are determined on an individual basis by the department.

Technology in the field of meteorology does not change at a lightning pace, but improvements in satellite and computer technology have had profound effects. As well as IR (infrared) scanning, new remote sensing satellites can estimate wind speeds by the roughness of the sea, and using radar they are capable of sounding different levels of the atmosphere. This last development will eventually replace weather balloons.

New computers assist daily fore-



Edmonton's Lurrado

casts where speed is of the essence. In order to be useful, a forecast must be out within an hour of new data coming in. Faster computers can work out complex numerical models within this time constraint.

"When you're a winner you're always happy, but if you're happy as a loser you'll always be a loser."

Mark Fidrych major league pitcher.

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If we began to play popular music all the time they would take away our licence. It's as simple as that," said Istvanffy. "There is, however, still room for compromise in that there is a lot of good, accessible music that is not commercial."

Istvanffy also feels that the station is becoming more active in an effort to raise its reputation not only on campus, but in the radio community as well. As he says: "we're making more of an effort to promote ourselves on campus. I'm also spending more time raising our profile in the mainstream media."

"Probably our biggest roadblock, however, is our transmitter. The fact that it's only 44.5 watts means that we have a limited listenership even before we start."

A recent CJSR-sponsored questionnaire found that most students who never listen to CJSR were willing to allocate an additional 50 cents of their SU fees to support the campus station.

Twible feels that if students aren't listening they should not be paying.