

Hungarian quartet gets big 'Hurrah!'

By Judith Kutt
Guest reviewer

The Kodaly Quartet from Hungary, sponsored by the UNCA Chamber Music Series, presented a captivating performance Friday night in Lipinsky Auditorium.

The program opened with Mozart's delightful **String Quartet No. 14 in G major**.

The audience was immediately enraptured by the group's finesse and immaculate sense of ensemble; and the players obviously took great joy in producing such lovely sounds.

The serene mood which the players set in the first movement prevailed throughout the evening.

The second movement of the Mozart piece, a minuet, showed the group's tasteful use of dynamics, and they carried it off with elegance.

The following movement, "Andante cantabile," was also lovely. By this time it was obvious that these excellent musicians went to great lengths to carefully plan out each and every phrase and part of the music.

The last movement, a high-spirited allegro that opened with a fugue, caused instant enchantment. The group produced an incredible variety of colors in this single movement.

Schubert's **Quartet No. 9 in G minor**, a posthumously published work, was more serious in nature.

The quartet performed the first movement with much deliberation, and the pianissimos in the next movement were excruciatingly beautiful. Excellent intonation was apparent at all times.

In the finale, however, I became more aware that the tone of the first violinist, Atilla Falvay, was occasionally slightly thin. This flaw, seemingly caused by his bow technique, was usually covered by his lovely vibrato.

Although his ensemble playing was excellent, Falvay often seemed remote from the rest of the group. I would have liked to have seen more eye contact between him and the other two players.

This was also true of the cellist, Janos Devich, but not of the other two players, violinist Tamas Szabo and violist Gabor Fias.

Debussy's **String Quartet in G minor, Op. 10** opened the second half of the program.

Though it was well-performed, the quartet's highly-defined playing seemed almost a hindrance to the interpretation of this work. The dreamy quality of Debussy was often lost by the group's overly-careful approach.

The performance was re-deemed, however, by several factors: the perfect intonation and rich sound in the powerful chordal sections in the first movement; the utterly enjoyable pizzicato work in the second; and the fantastic build-up of energy towards the end of the third.

By the last movement, the musicians began showing slight signs of fatigue which actually benefited the performance. The rigidity mellowed, and their enforced relaxation

smoothed any sharp edges that had been apparent.

This led to a lovely quality that should have prevailed throughout the piece. In this movement, also, Devich became more visually involved with the other players than before, which was enjoyable to view.

At the end, the audience presented the Kodaly Quartet with a sincere, if unspontaneous, standing ovation, which encouraged the musicians to offer an encore—the third movement of Bartok's sixth string quartet.

This spritely and comically-dissonant selection, filled with folk-like melodies, was reproduced in a way that only musician's from Bartok's native Hungary, such as these from Budapest, could have done.

Several special effects surprised and enthralled the audience, and the performer's precision again paid off.

Overall, the concert was a huge success. One listener even remarked that this was the best music he had heard in years.



Staff Photo by Sylvia Hawkins

MIKE WARNEKE, former Satanic priest, and converted Christian, brought his unusual brand of testimonial comedy to UNCA's Justice Gym Friday night.

Dance!

The University Program Board will host the annual UNCA Christmas Dance in the Highsmith University Center on Fri., Dec. 7, from 9 p.m. until 1 a.m.

THE MAXX, a Top-40 dance and show band from Atlanta, will entertain for the evening.

Admission to the semi-formal/formal dance is \$2 for students, \$3 for faculty/staff/alumni, and \$4 for guests.

Alcoholic beverages are limited to 12 oz. of beer or 4 oz. of wine per hour per student 19 years or older. Proof of age is required.

Radio station

— Continued from page 1

radio station. The audience was small so the experience was not as great."

UNCA made the decision to give the license away before the communications major began, according to Dr. Alfred Canon Jr., director of university relations.

The transition began about five years ago when a group of citizens (Western Carolina National Public Radio, Inc.) banded together to complain about WUNF's programming. The Federal Communications Commission issued an ultimatum to the station to make improvements within three years.

Last spring former Chancellor William E. Highsmith agreed to give the license to WCNPRI. The ownership changed in late summer, with the call letters and schedule change completed in early October.

"I think the university did not want to be bothered with running a radio

station," said Davies.

"At the time the university did not feel it had the finances to make the needed improvements and it would have to be done with private funds," said Canon.

However, UNCA is still backing the new station heavily, and is planning to soon provide it with a much larger, more modern facility.

"The university furnishes the studio, utilities, and maintenance. The station pays for the telephone, salaries, and operating costs," said Canon.

In June of 1985, UNCA will begin renovating a section of Lipinsky's lower level for a new WCQS studio. The new studio is part of a \$250,000 state-funded renovation of Lipinsky which should be completed in the fall of 1985.

The state granted the money with the stipulation that a substantial portion of it be used to build a new studio.

Brown said the benefits of a NPR station outweigh

the costs.

"The best universities across the nation have National Public Radio stations on their campus," said Brown.

Of course these universities generally provide an alternate on-the-air training station for broadcast students.

WCQS is still working to achieve NPR status within an 18-month deadline.

"Becoming a NPR station would mean increased expenses, but it would also give us access to a lot of national programming," said Warner.

Warner is also hoping to increase the station's current 110 watts by about 10,000 watts.

The community has certainly expressed their pleasure with WCQS.

During a recent on-the-air fund raising drive listeners donated \$23,500, which was \$13,500 more than the station's goal.

Canon agrees the transition improved the station.

"It is a better station than two years ago in

terms of quality and scope of programming," continued Canon.

The future of students and WCQS remains uncertain.

"We don't know what is ahead in the way of opportunities for students," said Brown.

TERM PAPERS TYPED \$250 PER PG

- Typed on a CPT 8100 Word Processor.
- Corrected for spelling, punctuation, grammar.
- Double spaced. • Quick turn-a-round.

Gatehouse Business Services

Resumes • Repetitive Letters • General Typing

265 Charlotte Street 254-7893

8AM-5PM Mon.-Fri.

