



Turner, Shawn
Our man ^{Aug 15-90}
^{Peel Bdg BK MN}
on the air

For 26-year-old Shawn Turner, becoming the overnight announcer on radio station CJCL-AM 1430 may not have happened if not for some helpful pushing by some friends.

Turner, who lived near the Applewood Plaza from 1974 until just last year, has been helping Toronto-area insomniacs and shift workers through the night for the past 18 months at CJCL. But he started life in the public eye with a very unusual job — dressing up as a moose for the Ikea furniture store.

"It was a summer job I got through Canada Employment," he said. "All it involved was going around the store or to special functions. But I got lots of freebies with that costume. I would go back and do that in a minute."

Right now, though, Turner has taken on a more vocal occupation, one he's planning on sticking with for a long time.

"Originally, I wanted to get into journalism," he explained. Turner even spent some time at *The Mississauga News* as a co-op student.

"But all along people said I should get into radio," he continued. One was Klaus Haubert, a typing, business and computer teacher at Gordon Graydon who convinced Turner he should read the morning announcements every day.

"I remember being totally nervous," he said, but after that first day, he became more and more comfortable with a microphone.

The next push came from a friend who encouraged him to take courses in radio at Humber College. Although he never graduated, he found a job at CKAR in Oshawa, commuting every day from Mississauga.

After a year and a half at CKAR-AM, a workmate at the station told Turner CJCL was looking for announcers.

"I said, 'There's no way they're going to hire me,'" said Turner. But his friend kept bothering him until he finally sent a tape. Soon after, CJCL program director Jim Kidd called Turner and asked him to come in to do some taping, making things somewhat awkward for Turner at CKAR.

Turner firmly believes that his success is simply good fortune.