

Fire aftermath...

Banjo relief fund gathers \$400

Two days of banjo-pickin' and \$400 for the victims of last Wednesday's fire in HUB.

Larry Stefan, a friend of the women occupying the destroyed suite and the prime suspect in the fire, took to the streets in HUB Thursday and Friday with his banjo and a donation box to establish a relief fund.

Azima Hasma, Mumtaz Karim and Karen Pacholok lost their homes valued, by their guess, at \$6000 in the blaze. Stefan missed his classes for days and played for six hours straight on Thursday, sitting on a chair in front of a sign describing the women's plight.

"The response was overwhelming," Stefan said. "I'd all like to thank everyone who helped out."

Karmali said Monday she was discovering they had many

friends willing to donate money and furnishings—including a new couch, which now adorns the front room of their new apartment in HUB.

HUB management found the women a place to stay the night of the fire and moved them into a vacant two-man unit the next day. Karmali complimented the

management on their quick relocation, but lamented the absence of insurance on the possessions of tenants—although the building itself is insured.

"We've all been in good spirits since the fire," she added. "If we had lost our good spirits, we would have really lost everything."

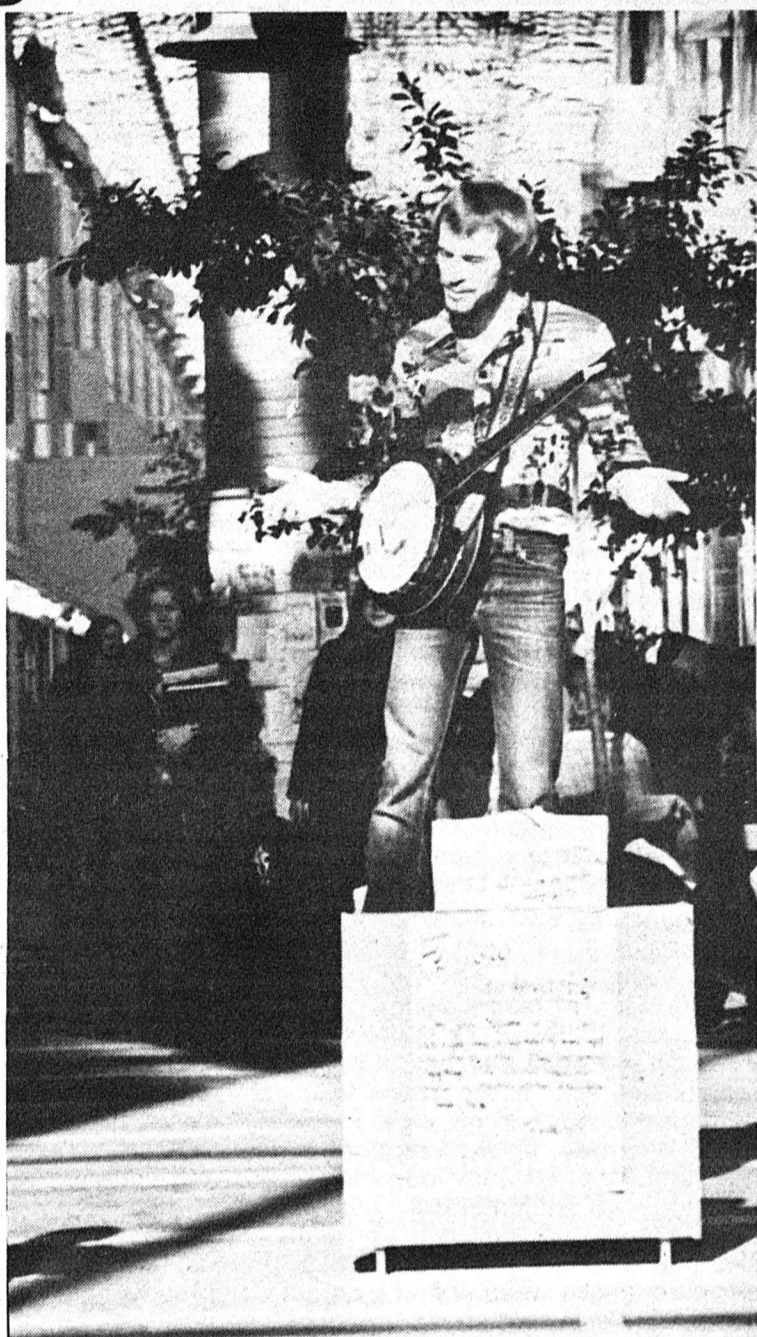
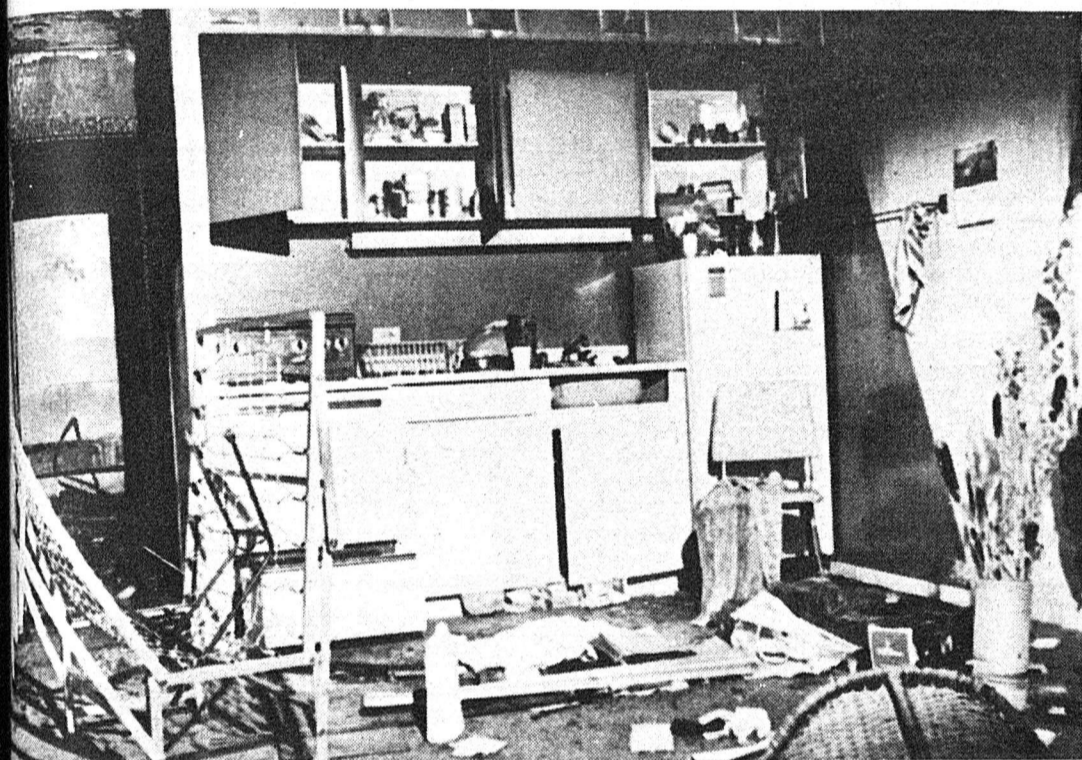
Members of the city fire department arson squad are continuing their investigations into a fire which gutted a two-man unit in HUB Wednesday night.

Fire officials would not disclose details of their investigations when contacted Monday, but indicated information would be made public later this week.

Fire officials estimate

the damage to the HUB suite at \$16,000, with another \$4,000 in possessions destroyed.

HUB manager Gerry Durrant, however, has disputed the fire department's estimate, saying he places the suite damage at about \$12,000 "though it can't be determined until repairs to the suite have been completed."



Ain't nothin' without your love...

Larry Stefan and friends made a plea last week for donations to cover losses from the HUB fire and U of A students proved to be as warm-hearted as the weather.

Left, the apartment kitchen the morning after, with smoke stains on the wall and debris everywhere. And the flames didn't even reach the kitchen. The bedrooms in the back didn't fare quite as well.

Rape drama soon

The department of drama at Edmonton's Rape Crisis Centre will present a performance of catalyst theatre entitled "In Reality" Wed. Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. in Education North Room 205.

The production, involving ten actors in scenes concerned with rape such as police proceedings, counselling scenes and family attitudes following a rape, will take about two hours.

"We call such plays catalyst theatre because they involve role-playing based on documented experience produced in such a way as to provoke discussion on the part of the audience," says moderator David Barnett.

Barnett says the production is being produced for five reasons: first, rape is a very serious offence and happens more frequently than the public seems to realize. We want to make them aware of it.

"Second, there is no 'profile' of a rapist or a victim. We want to let people know that rapists are trench-coat figures in parkings and victims are not girls to ask for it."

"Third, there is a need for society to accept and respect the victim of rape, and to deal with it from a non-judgemental empathetic point of view.

"Fourth, there is very little we can do about the problem of rape, besides taking the necessary precautions, i.e. not walking alone at night. With the

way the law stands right now, though, and with the way it is enforced, it is all weighted in favor of the rapist, and we want to make people aware of this.

"Fifth, we want to let people know procedures they can follow after rape—going to police, rape crisis centre, hospital, lawyer, etc."

Women to get prov. input

The Provincial Cabinet Thursday agreed to receive input at intervals from an organization specifically concerned with the status of women in Alberta.

Cabinet minister Lou Hyndman has agreed to function as an intermediary between the Alberta Status of Women Action Com-

mittee (ASWAC) and the Cabinet.

Hyndman, as chairman of the cabinet Committee on Social Planning, will meet at intervals with representatives of ASWAC to discuss the implementation of the brief "joint initiatives" which was presented to the provincial government by ASWAC last fall.

More support for B of G

Two U of A representative bodies — the Council of the Faculty of Arts and the Association of the Academic Staff (AASUA) — have supported the recent Board of Governors (B of G) decision to oppose fee increases for foreign students.

Both resolutions were passed at meetings Feb. 15.


The Faculty of Arts Council motion was the more strongly worded of the two. The Council "formally expressed its disapproval of the provincial government's interference with academic autonomy in prescribing a two-tiered fee system without the agreement of the B of G in apparent disregard of the Universities Act."

The Council accuses the minister of "acting on a discriminatory basis contrary to the spirit of the Bill of Rights."

It also deplored what it called the government's attempt "to use the university as a tax-collecting agent to give effect to a political decision."

Sorry, but we goofed

In last Thursday's article covering reaction to the recent Students' Union election, Barb Brown was erroneously identified as Barb Fink. Sorry Barb.



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