

# Music students win concessions

by Wes Oginski

"My very reason for being here is to draw the public's attention to this very serious crisis," says Bill Damur, music graduate student and musician.

Damur and four other musicians played for almost two hours in front of the SU Music Store last Friday. The purpose was to protest the Students' Union move to close the Music and Record Stores.

"Actually the Students' Union has priorities," says Stu Millman, assistant manager of the Music Store.

"I understand the situation... I also think this store offers a very valuable service," he adds.

Millman says the Music Store could have been a viable service but much would have to be done to gain financial support from outside the campus community.

"The Music Store could not survive on the business of the students alone," says Florence Roberts, manager of both the Music and Record Stores.

"The store has been open two years and has never stabilized," she says.

The Music Store has undergone a variety of changes in the past two years.

SU vp Academic Liz Lunney says every attempt was made to make the Music Store a viable operation.

"We haven't denied it's a service to students," says Elise Gaudet, SU vp Finance. But the Students' Union did not feel justified supporting a service that should be the responsibility of the university.

While the band played Friday, Music Students Association (MSA) members circulated a



Concert for Kampuchea it wasn't, but a valiant effort nonetheless.

photo Dave Chan

petition and by one p.m. they had collected 300 signatures.

"Ideally, the aim was to keep the Music Store open," says MSA president John Feldberg.

The MSA realizes it is probably too late to save the store, so they will channel their efforts into a presentation to the University Bookstore. They hope the bookstore can be convinced to fill the slack left by the Music Store.

"So far they (the Bookstore) have agreed to pick up the texts and basic music material," Feldberg says. MSA hopes to convince the bookstore into carry-

ing a sheet music section.

In the meantime, the Students' Union thinks it has come up with a solution to the Music Store problem.

"The Students' Union was not trying to dispose of the inventory without consideration of the music students," says Liz Lunney.

"Music students are being given first crack at what's there." On Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, the Music Store will have all stock on sale at 50 percent off.

"We are giving them (the music students) an opportunity to

buy the stock at reduced cost and below cost," says Ivanisko.

"They (MSA) were very good at expressing their concerns," says Ivanisko about the meeting last week. "I think we have reached an understanding."

Music Students say they do not completely understand, however.

Last Thursday, George Ivanisko, SU General Manager, met with Warren Price, Gordon Price's representative, to finalize the original Music Store deal.

"We (the MSA) would very much like to know why the sale of

the business was being drawn up yesterday (last Thursday) and why we had to come and stop it," asks music student and former MSA president Nancy Millions.

SU executives say there was just a misunderstanding.

"We received an offer from them (Gordon Price) which closed yesterday (Thursday)," says Elise Gaudet, SU vp Finance.

"It was rejected," she adds, "but we made a counter-offer (which they accepted)."

The details of the counter-offer allows a sale to take place this Tuesday and Wednesday, but the store closes sooner than the Christmas date predicted at Students' Council last meeting.

"They (Gordon Price) have agreed to let the sale take place on Tuesday and Wednesday," says Ivanisko. "all the remaining stock would then be purchased at a percentage of list price."

"We had originally planned to keep it (Music Store) open longer," Gaudet adds. In view of the upcoming sale Gaudet says she does not believe that there will be much stock left, and the Music Store will close Wednesday.

A meeting was held yesterday between SU representatives and MSA members to plan further discussions with business concerns which will take over the text and music sales of the store.

Ivanisko, is setting up a meeting between a Gordon Price representative, the company who wishes to purchase the Music Store stock, and members of MSA.

"We have expressed our discontent with Gordon Price," Feldberg says. The MSA has already met with Ivanisko, SU executives and a bookstore representative to discuss concerns and alternatives.

# Liberals prepare for anti-inflationary budget

by Peter Michalyszyn

Reiterating Pierre Trudeau's message in Toronto, Allan MacEachen said in Edmonton Friday that inflation is the 'No. 1 enemy' of Canadians.

"There is no one more determined than I am to deal with inflation and high interest rates,"

MacEachen told about 300 people at last weekend's \$150-a-plate Liberal fundraising dinner at the Four Seasons Hotel.

However, though he emphasized that the November

12 budget would key on inflation, MacEachen was less enthusiastic about fighting high interest rates.

He said government could not simply tell the Bank of Canada to lower interest rates; it would be preferable that lower rates result from the trend toward lower inflation, he said.

"To me...the surest way to bring down interest rates is to take every possible step to bring down inflation," MacEachen said.

But, he said "I'm convinced any reduction of interest rates by

government fiat at a time of high inflation would do more harm than good."

MacEachen provided no specifics about how the November 12 federal budget would battle inflation. He said government must reduce the federal deficit, sitting now at about \$12 billion. Interest payments alone on the deficit will equal \$2 billion this year, he said.

MacEachen also said the public and the private sector must help out, though government must encourage them by example.

The Minister of Finance made several vague references to possible budget features:

"The strong must help by carrying a larger burden" and "fiscal policy (taxation) must bear its share..." hinting at tax increases for wealthy individuals and corporations, as well as continued 'exhortation' to banks and lending institutions not to victimize mortgage and loan holders;

"We want to encourage domestic savings and investment," not foreign, hinting at foreign exchange controls: as long as Canadian money leaves the country, downward pressure is put on the Canadian dollar. This in turn forces the government to hike interest rates to support the currency on the international market. Otherwise, a devalued dollar would cause greater inflation;

"If the penalty of inflation is higher than the reward for saving, naturally savers will be reluctant to save" — a recent example is the government's Canada Savings

Bonds which offer 19 and a half per cent interest in the first year. The CSB's would do two things: increase saving (reduced spending=lower inflation) and keep money in Canada (decreased devaluation through outside investment).

In Toronto last week, Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau said all sectors of the economy must show restraint in their demands and behavior.

He appealed for "collective support of collective restraints — I am asking Canadians to support their national government in its determination to fight inflation as their No. 1 enemy."

"Principally, that means supporting our efforts to restrain the growth of government spending," Trudeau said, as reported in the *Globe and Mail*.

**"There is no one more determined than I am to deal with inflation and high interest rates."**

Part of that restraint has been announced already in the form of \$1.5 billion cuts in the Established Programs Financing agreement transfers to the provinces and in the Via Rail service cuts across Canada.

NDP critics in Ottawa say Trudeau and MacEachen ought to look for restraint among the people who have done very well by inflation, meaning those who have realized high returns on investments due to inflation,

according to finance critic Bob Rae.

"Working people have lost on average \$35 per week in real income in the last three years as a result of inflation, and if you want to talk about restraint, that's real restraint," said Rae last week in a Canadian Press story.

In the same story, conservative party finance critic Michael Wilson said if the Liberal government wanted to reduce government spending it should refer to a cabinet document from the Clark government that said Ottawa could cut over \$5 billion in a wide variety of programs.

Wilson said he expects government spending to rise 20 per cent this year, more even than Liberal estimates of 13.3 per cent released with last year's federal budget. The pressure of higher interest rates on the federal deficit, and on money used to buy

foreign oil holdings under the National Energy Program, account for the higher figure.

As well, the NEP and perceived nationalistic economic policies have driven away domestic investment, thus weakening the dollar.

In all of this, MacEachen said Friday night that he was looking forward anxiously to the November 12 budget night.

"I'm ready," he said. The question is: are we?

