

Management should 'bite the bullet' and do their share in fighting rising costs

For several weeks senior administration officials at this university have been preparing us for a rough road ahead. As a direct result of last week's board of governors meeting, we now have some evidence of the financial disaster predicted.

Indeed it has been a disaster for students. Tuition fees have risen 12 per cent and residence fees have shot up 13 per cent. The cost of higher education is now so high that many wonder whether it is really worth it to come to university. University officials claim they are mindful of the financial burden placed upon students, but are they mindful of the uncertain summer job situation? Somehow students must pay for their education.

As the announced tuition and residence fee hikes were not enough, university officials ad-

mit openly that residence students will be paying more money to stay on our humble campus while less services will be provided. In fact cleaning and food services will be further reduced beginning in the fall. Cutbacks. Anything new?

In addition to this several student summer jobs at this university have been cut. It seems UNB cannot hire as many students with the current cutbacks.

The cutbacks and increases announced so far affect students directly. We all have to "bite the bullet" so to speak. We wonder when the administration will be announcing its own cutbacks. How many senior officials, including deans, will be eliminated? We think that not one position will be eliminated. We would be surprised if it happened.

As the final coup and the issue that really has many students upset the university has decided to drop UNB's football team. The Red Bombers have been a tradition on this campus for more years than many of us can remember. The Red Bombers have some effect on student morale. If administration officials don't believe us they should have been at the

Brunswickan office this week. They may have heard the reaction from concerned students.

We are told that further cutbacks are coming. With the sense of warped priorities this administration seems to have, we can only speculate that other programs that directly affect students will be cut back or eliminated. In addition, we suspect the decisions will be made during the summer too, when students are elsewhere.

In fact we challenge this administration to hire a team of management consultants to investigate staff positions in senior places at this university. Somehow we suspect the

report of the consultants would be interesting to say the least.

The bottom line is - UNB suffers not only from mismanagement but too much management in our view. Maybe it is time management should "bite the bullet" too. After all who pays the shot for management at this university? In the long run **the students** do.

The events of the past week and the administration's somewhat misguided priorities have seriously affected student morale. One graduating student said this week "I'm glad I'm getting out of here. UNB just isn't the same place it was when I started here." Sad but true.

CHSR speaks on football issue

Editor's Note: The following editorial was aired on CHSR last week.

The students are getting the short end of the stick once again. Tuition is up, residence fees are up -- and there is a lot less to offer students than there was a year ago. Residence bars have been closed, brewery tours are no longer allowed, and now they've taken our football team away from us. It's going to be an awfully dull campus around here next fall.

Obviously with a deficit budget something had to be done. However, it is questionable that all the avenues were exhausted before the deletion of the football team was carried out, and a bad

precedent was set. It is bad in the sense that once a major program such as the football program is cut, it becomes that much easier when it comes time to axe something else. Also, through proper management this problem should have been foreseen and action taken to avoid such a drastic decision. As well as considering the student athletes, the student in general, as well as the F'ton community have to be considered. The Red Bombers football team has one of the few things which the community of F'ton and the university community still

shared in common - it united them as it were.

Eliminating other programs is obviously not desirable, particularly if it would take the elimination of 9 teams to keep the football program. But is that the only alternative? Could not a few of the less visible sports be eliminated, along with some of the unnecessary personnel who currently work for UNB, in an effort to cut costs? The obvious reply to that is, that you're eliminating the livelihood of one or more university employees. But - how many salaried employees would have to be released to make

up the \$45,000 necessary to keep the team? Probably at the very most, three. And after all, is the university here to provide education and enrichment for its students and the surrounding community, or is it here to provide jobs for the faculty and support staff?

In attempting to meet the "severe financial restraints" the administration has decided to let the students bear the brunt, while they themselves remain relatively well off. If this trend continues we will soon have everything cutback except for academics, and a univer-

sity which offers nothing but academics is not a university but a large private school whose purpose is to hand out papers to ensure employment, while at the same time, providing employment for the faculty.

Once again, it must be stressed that UNB is here to serve the students and the community not the faculty. In these hard times, it's

about time the bureaucracy which runs this institution realizes this purpose and accepts some of the financial crunch along with the students.