

Be one of
the vocal minority...

The Gateway

SPECIAL ISSUE

...protest differentials,
today!

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RALLY TODAY AT LEGISLATURE

Today is an important day in the history of this university.

Today a rally is to be held protesting the provincial government's proposal to implement a two-tier system of "differential" tuition fees.

Today students will show the government how much they care about the fate of their university.

After the Board of Governors, a body consisting of a majority of government-appointed personnel, twice voted to reject differential fees, the government has remained adamant on their proposal. This is a clear infringement on university autonomy — where education ideals are thrown aside for the sake of political inanities.

Despite the fact that the government brought up the question of differential fees without having done any research on the foreign student issue in Alberta, despite the fact that the government has ignored all pertinent information brought before it with regards to differential fees, the most crucial issue in the differential fees debate is the morality of such a system.

Studies show differential fees will discriminate against students from Third World countries, those who need an advanced education the most. (It is no coincidence, many people surmise, that these Third World students denied entrance are usually of a non-Caucasian origin.)

Studies show foreign students already contribute substantially to the economy, despite government protestations to the contrary. Each student must bring \$3,000 a year into the country, which is put directly into the Alberta economy. Likewise, foreign students may *not* take jobs while in Canada, despite the popular misconception that they take jobs away from Canadians."

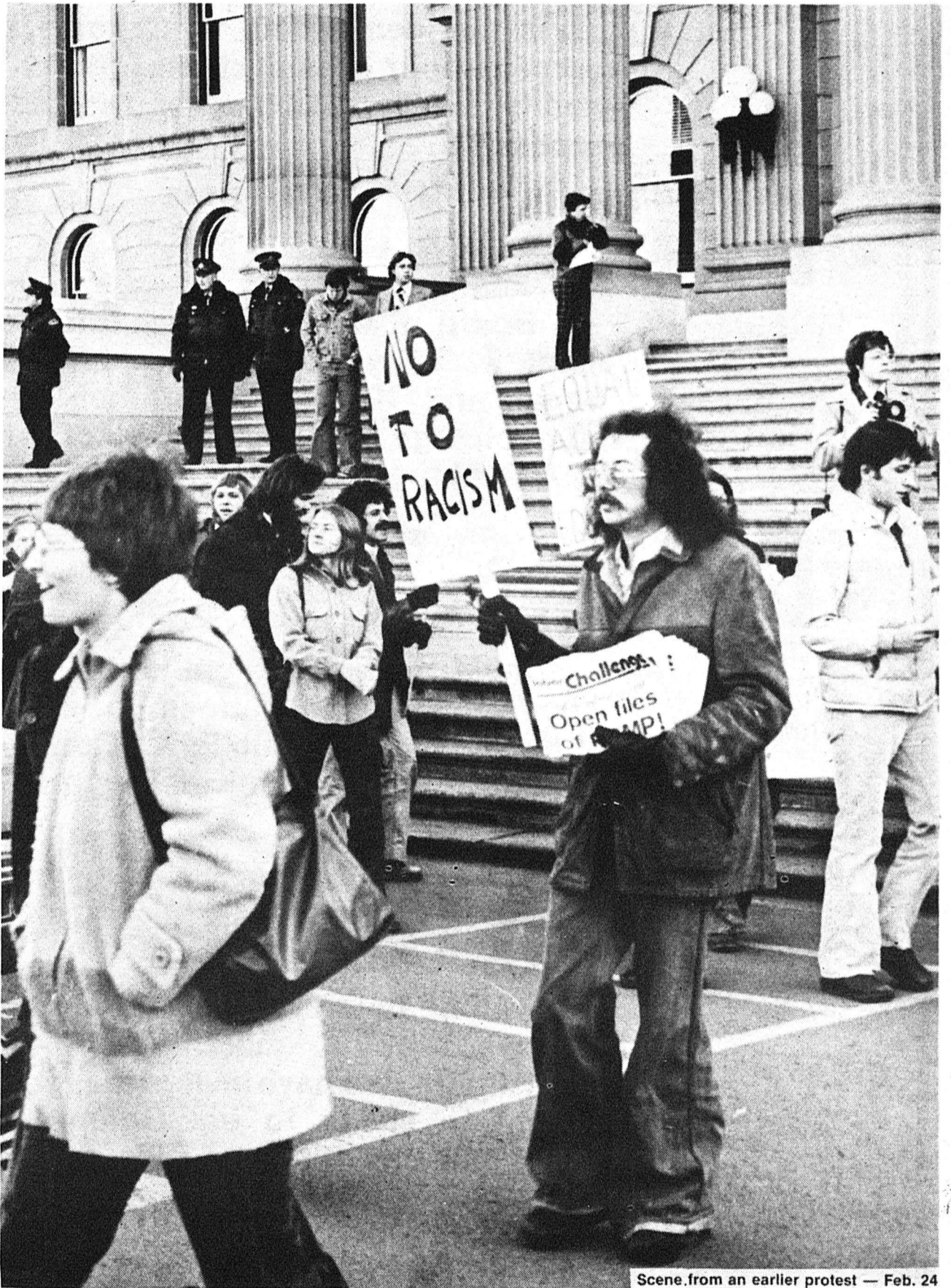
Canada, as an incredibly rich nation, has an obligation to the other members of the global community. Our commitment to our less fortunate neighbours should be a strong one — based on access to education and access to our western technology.

It is not enough for the government to spout platitudes as it ignores the moral judgements of every academic institution not only in Alberta but in the whole of Canada.

It is not enough for the government to claim it has "public" support if that public support is based on misconceptions and racism.

It is not enough for the government to demand a "reasonable" attitude from its electorate without being reasonable in its own dealings.

We have been shunted aside. Our protests, our research, our carefully-reasoned moral arguments...have been ignored. Our attempt to reason with the provincial government has failed.



Scene from an earlier protest — Feb. 24

It is now time to show the government our discontent.

It is time to show the government we protest its running roughshod over our university's autonomy.

It is time to show the government that we do not like discrimination no matter how popular, that we do not want our university to

become as narrow and parochial as some might wish, that we do not want the educational standards in the province to be set by the whims of political animals.

Protest today at the rally in Quad at 1 p.m. and the rally in front of the Legislature at 2:30 p.m. Show the university — and the government — that you care.

Oppose differentials