

Editorial

Get mad!

This week's paper, the first of the year, brings news of an anticipated increase in tuition fees which may be as high as 13 per cent.

What that means is that as students face 1981, they also must face the prospect of next September's fees totalling, for the first time ever, over \$1000 for arts undergrads. For York students, already strapped by inflation, it's hardly a happy new year.

If the fee hike is as large as predicted, it will mean that we'll be forking over an additional \$119 to get into an institution which, strained by inflation, will likely be worse than it was when we were paying far less for it.

Blaming the university's administration for fee increases is facile. It is simply trying to maintain an institution suffering from an atrophy brought on by rising costs and falling funding.

Instead, we must look to the Davis government, which has once again proved its lack of concern for post secondary education. When we look there, we must look back at ourselves.

The shoddy treatment given this province's universities is not a political issue. It is greeted with yawns even by students, those most concerned. What is obvious is that Davis won't start caring

about education until his constituency does, and his constituency won't until we do.

The fact that higher education isn't an issue is the fault of every student too lazy to make his voice heard.

Those fond of proverbs are apt to remark that it's a fool who takes ten steps to save one. But it's a lesson students might do well to learn. Virtually all of us think it's too much of a bother, too much of an effort, to protest fee increases. Instead, we spend our vacations and weekends earning the ever increasing amounts of money that our schooling requires.

It might come as a shock to some to learn that little effort spent on the first would save a lot of effort on the second.

Students, the most educated group in society, seem to think that they ought to leave politics to the politicians—hardly an enlightened view. While Bill Davis can afford to ignore us, we can't afford to ignore him. That kind of thinking is going to cost us \$119.

So, let us turn our attention to him, and the coming provincial election—an auspicious occasion for getting our point across. Plastering the province with YOUTH AGAINST DAVIS bumper stickers might be a subtle start. At the very least it would tell him and



the rest of the province that something is very wrong. At the very best, it would bring into office someone willing to right it.

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