

SUNDAY, MARCH 18 7:00 PM and 9:30 PM

**Restricted Adult** 

THE MYSTERY-COMEDY THAT TASTES AS GOOD AS IT LOOKS



WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, Adult 7:00 PM and 9:30 PM



FRIDAY, MARCH 22 7:00 PM and 9:30 PM Restricted Adult



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA EDMONTON

CINEMA

SUB THEATRE

CONCERTS



## **BACKGROUND**

## Have we been spitting in the wind?

by Brian Mason

Students and academics were rudely awakened in September 1975 by the provincial treasurer's announcement of an 11% ceiling on 76-77 government grants to colleges and universities. Most people just wanted to roll over and go back to sleep but the next year it was reduced to 10% and last year to

Last March 15, 5,000 fullyawakened students and profs marched to the legislature to demand answers. They got none.

And then, strangely enough, everyone just sort of stopped fighting. It was expected during exams and the summer, but everyone had big plans for the fall.

It didn't work out, however. Many campuses didn't pick up where they had left off. Those that did had limited success. The U of A's COTIAC held another march which flopped. The U of C's "day of education" was more successful but hardly earthshak-

What was wrong? Had cutbacks gone away? Didn't students care anymore?

Well, cutbacks didn't go

"Cutbacks are more than a bad dream that won't go away. Eventually, the government has to wake un and listen"

the effects are the same. Prices and fees go up, staff and courses are cut; libraries deteriorate, equipment is not replaced, quotas are imposed.

The effects are now being felt by students throughout the province. At Lethbridge Community College the daycare centre has been lost. At SAIT, food services don't meet demand. At the U of A the library has had to cut periodical subscriptions by 2000 and reduce hours. These are just a few examples of a very widespread problem.

Despite the evident lack of interest, students do care. Many, just don't think there's anything they can do that will be effective. The massive disinterest of the provincial government in education seems to demoralize many students, who would otherwise be active.

However, the Grantham huge mandate has to li away. At campus after campus, report, which recommends large

tuition increases and the prov cial election seems to rekindled some interest.

The failure of the gove ment to come through with new provincial student aid p or its delay in announce university grants until after election have angered ma students.

The idea of taking students' case to the taxpayer catching on. A petition, organ ed by students, but taken out i the community as well, seems be a positive step forward.

Already campaigns are derway in Lethbridge, Calga Olds and Grande Prairie. Edmonton, COTIAC is gear up. The three opposition lead have already signed the petiti Many other community lead are expected to follow.

Even a government wit sooner or later.

