

# the dalhousie gazette

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## Dal's new super sports complex

by Michael Donovan

In 1932 Dalhousie obtained a new Sports Centre to provide athletic facilities for its 700 students. In the inaugural speech of 1933, the President of Dalhousie University at that time stated that the Sports facilities would be enlarged "within a few years".

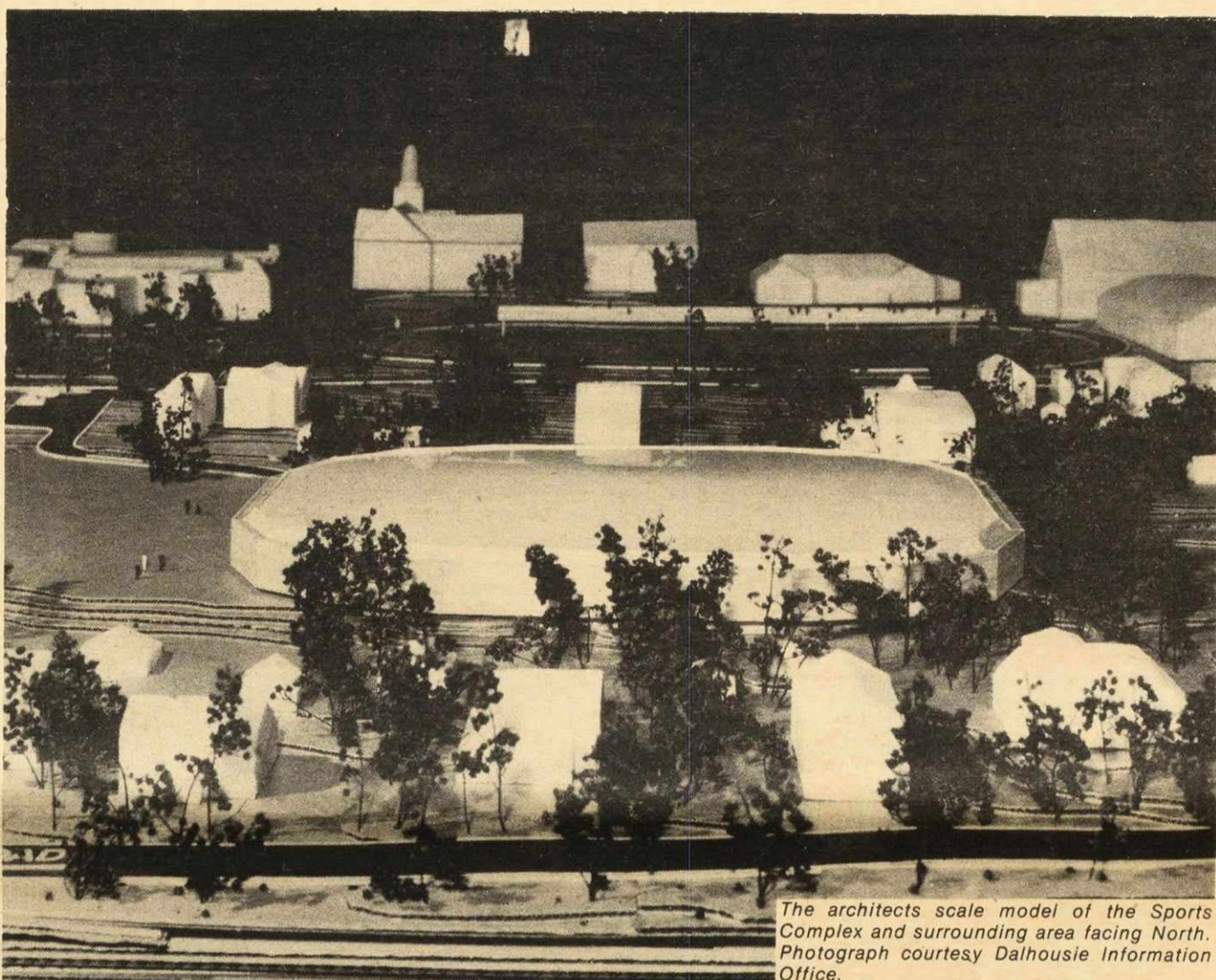
In 1976 the enrollment at Dalhousie is over 7000 students and the Sports facilities are exactly the same as they were in 1932.

Two weeks ago the Supreme Court of Canada handed down a decision denying an appeal by the City of Halifax to block the construction of a new Sports Complex on South Street opposite the football field. The Supreme Court's decision seriously restricts the right of the city to engage in spot-rezoning. The decision also puts an end to the more than two years of legal battles between the University on one side; and city council and residents of the Dalhousie area on the other side over the proposed site for construction of the Sports Complex.

Henry Hicks, President of Dalhousie, commenting on the decision said that the Court dismissed the city's appeal without even calling on Dalhousie's solicitor. According to him, this indicated the court was "convinced that the city couldn't make an argument for its case".

The controversy began in August 1973, when Hicks unveiled plans for the five million dollar Sports Complex, (to be built on the South side of South Street opposite the football field) at a public meeting attended by approximately 300 local residents. The residents viewed the choice of the site as an attempt by the University to cut a wedge into the residential area.

A committee of frightened citizens, Concerned Dalhousie Area



The architects scale model of the Sports Complex and surrounding area facing North. Photograph courtesy Dalhousie Information Office.

Citizens (CDAC), was organized in a futile attempt to resist the infringement by the University on the neighborhood.

The citizens argued that there were at least twelve other good locations within the University Campus area. The University counterargued that all other possible locations would involve additional construction costs. The two most

often mentioned locations - Studley Field (the football field), and the area east of the Rink behind the Student Union Building - were quoted as involving increased costs in the area of \$800,000.

In order to defeat the proposal, the citizens sought and obtained on the 15th of November 1973, favourable vote by City Council on a rezoning application for the six acre proposed site on South Street. The alderman voted 7-3 in favor of rezoning. The University finally took the matter to the courts where the issue seems to have degenerated into a question of student athletics versus the arbitrary right

of the city to spot rezone.

The citizens of the area have been completely defeated. One resident stated, "I have found Dalhousie's intemperance, as evidenced by their legal manoeuvring, their insensitivity to public opinion, and their total disregard for the jurisdiction of the municipal government both disturbing and disappointing."

It would appear that the students have also been defeated. Construction costs and the costs of money have skyrocketed in the last two years. Dr. Hicks has said that "the city has probably succeeded in adding a couple of million dollars to  
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## Students squeezed

by Mike Greenfield

U of T President John Evans attacked the recent decision of the Ontario Government to limit grant increases to U of T to 12 per cent as the Governing Council considered the budget for next year.

Evans said U of T is getting the lowest proportional increase in the province which is "galling" in view of U of T's decision not to increase undergraduate enrollment.

As printed in The Varsity, Feb. 27: by Bob Bettson

In the Maritimes, however, the situation is a bit different. Students are getting squeezed by the Nova Scotia government at two levels. Already the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission has announced "substantial" cuts to universities. Thus forcing Dalhousie to either cut back on service or increase tuition. Secondly, the Nova Scotia Treasury Board is seriously considering lowering the bursary levels. What can the students do? (move?)

The March 3 issue of the Mail-Star contained an article concerning the possible decrease in provincial financial support to Maritime universities. In it Dalhousie President, Henry Hicks, is quoted as saying "the general feeling is that there will be some need for fee increases," but stressed "this should not be interpreted to mean there will be further increases at Dalhousie."

However in speaking with the *Gazette*, Tuesday March 9, stated, "I think that it's unlikely that there will be a fee increase this year." President Hicks said that although he would not give the final say, the assumption is that budget cuts will make up for the lack of funds.

The *Gazette* approached other members of the administration and found no one who considered a tuition increase was necessary. Remember also, if any increase is, in fact, being contemplated, an  
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## Greenpeace moves against Norwegians

The Vancouver based Greenpeace foundation is currently attempting to prevent the annual slaughter of seal pups off the Newfoundland coast.

Thousands upon thousands of infant seals are clubbed on the head and skinned, while still alive, so that fashion houses in New York, Paris and London, and Halifax too, can offer this fall's line of fashion furs.

Many Canadians have seen the pictures of mother seals huddled around the mutilated bodies of their babies, plaintively moaning to what can only be

called a little mound of flesh. Infant seals are slaughtered in this mindless manner for their fur; older brown colored seals are killed, in much smaller numbers, by the people of Newfoundland for food.

On the national news Fisheries Minister Romeo LeBlanc tried to lead Canadians into believing that the Greenpeace was taking seal meat from the mouths of Newfoundland fishermen / women.

The Greenpeace vessel is currently in a Newfoundland port waiting to begin again,