

Parking ticket protest

To the editor:

Anyone who drives a car to Dalhousie is already painfully aware of the parking crisis on campus right now. Yet we all keep quiet and pay out \$78 a year for the privilege of owning a hunting permit that enables us to seek out and conquer the ever-scarce animal named "Parking Spot."

Well, some of us were viciously attacked last Thursday, October 1st, in our quest for the Spot. Someone came up with the constructive idea of creating a single line of cars between the first two rows of cars in the Dunn parking lot. There was ample room for all cars on both sides to get in and out and so it made perfectly good sense to me. Furthermore, there were no signs anywhere saying that this was not the thing to do.

Well, good old Dalhousie Security decided to reward our efforts with \$15 parking tickets. The reason given was that we were parked on private property. When I approached Dal Security for clarification I was told that no signs were needed, warnings weren't appropriate, and that was the way it was.

I've decided to fight this ticket. If you too got a ticket for the same reason and would like to join the war, please give me a call. Also I would be very interested in hearing from any budding young law students who might have some advice.

Sincerely,
Matthew W. Morgan
861-3220

DWA reaches out

To the Editor:

I am writing on the behalf of the Dalhousie Women's Alternative. The DWA is a student society, begun last year to fill a need for a campus women's group dedicated to women's issues and acting in women students' interests. A primary objective was the establishment of a women's resource centre. That was accomplished — Patchwork: A Community Women's Resource Centre is opening in October in the Henson Centre (1247 Seymour St.)

This year the DWA is changing its focus somewhat. We believe that the group last year, directed toward active change, particularly attracted women students who were already well-informed, aware, and concerned about women's issues. Committed feminists, if you like. That served our purposes well last year. However, we think it may have been intimidating and alienating to a lot of other women students.

This year, the DWA is hoping to be more discussion-oriented. We want to talk together about common experiences and ideas. We want to create a group where

women who are curious, intrigued, wondering about feminism and women's issues can come; a group where women who are angry about attitudes they face in their daily lives can come; a group where women can come simply to meet other women; a group where all women can feel welcome and supported.

We fear that the DWA last year may have maintained (even heightened) isolation and division among campus women.

We'd like to lessen that isolation, by providing a forum for women to discuss, share, learn, and grow — together. We strongly welcome all interested women to drop in to our informal meetings. You needn't be a radical feminist. You needn't even say anything, if you don't want to. Please don't be intimidated, we'd love to meet you! Check the calendar or the SUB enquiry desk for meeting times and places.

Brenda Beagan
for the DWA

Saint John

To the editor:

On behalf of myself and the people of Saint John, New Brunswick, I would like to draw attention to the misspelling of our city's name in the September 18 issue of the Dalhousie Gazette, in the article entitled, "Student dies in Fredericton," page 6. The university which the student attended was referred to as UNB St. John. This should be **Saint John**.

Many others incorrectly spell Saint John. For example, in the CFS/FCE Studentsaver Guide, Saint John is spelled St. John. This is incorrect!

I would like the rest of Dalhousie University and the city of Halifax to realize the correct spelling of **Saint John**.

David Barton
Howe Hall
Dalhousie University

Writer a "militant feminist"

To the editor:

We are writing in response to the article, "Yes? No? Maybe so . . ." which appeared in the October 2nd issue of this paper. It dealt with the presentations being made to students living in residence on the topic of human relationships. The piece was littered with false statements and misquotes which deserve to be exposed.

The reporter claimed that the 'male-dominated audience' seemed to feel that females invited sexual assault with 'body language' and 'possible innuendos in conversations.' In truth, there were explicit denials of this, and the questions posed by the moderators dealt with ways women could avoid giving such clues, and did not even ask the important question of whether in fact this was justification for an assault, a question which would have received a resounding 'No!' from the audience.

Then your model of objectivity goes on to quote 'one honest Howe Hall resident' completely out of context when she quotes him as having answered, "Saying no, it's a ridiculous thing for a guy to do." The quote to which she alludes was prefaced with, "That's the problem. There's a social stigma which says that for a guy to say no is a ridiculous thing

to do." Whether the reporter lacks the perception required to note the irony which ran through the whole comment, or the attentiveness to note the preface (we assume it was not deliberate), is not clear.

We recommend also that your reporter abandon her militant feminist party line. The constant chic references to Gloria Steinem and Ms. Magazine added absolutely nothing to the story, and in fact served only to detract further from any objectivity the story could claim. Put plainly, personal opinions have no place whatsoever in any supposedly unbiased descriptions of newsworthy events. It occurs to us that your reporter has the story written prior to the presentation, and chose the quotes that would support her obviously low opinion of males. In the future you might do well to recommend that your

reporters tailor their story to the event and not the event to the story.

We are totally dismayed with the lack of integrity in this issue. Who is your reporter to judge as to whether the presentation held any benefit? The people giving the presentations are professionals attempting to inform students of possible dangers that may await them, so until she obtains her Ph.D. in psychology we suggest she refrain from any such comments. We wonder whether it might not have been useful to recognize the effort made (a few years ago such presentations were not staged), and offer thoughtful constructive criticisms, rather than panning the entire affair, helping to ensure that there will be no chance for improvement.

Yours cordially
Eric D. Lay
David W. Langille

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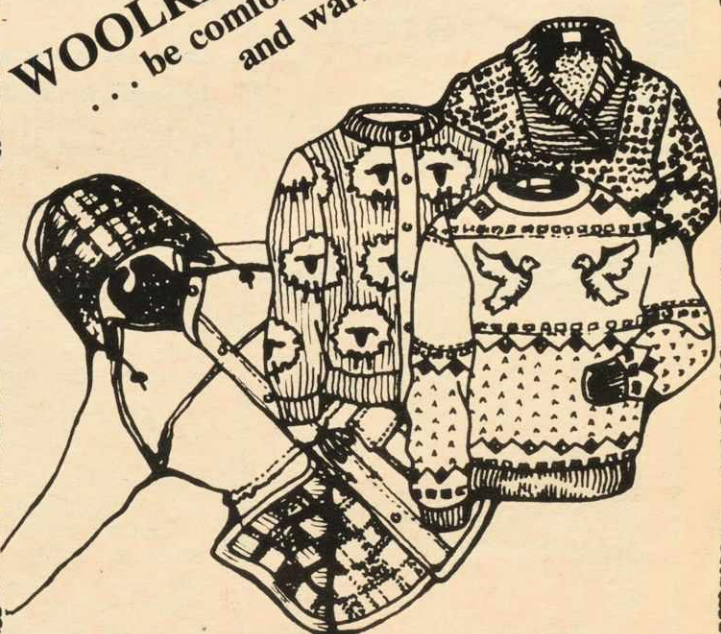
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