

How to survive

Making life bearable at Dal

by Beth Burke

Do you have that tired run-down feeling? Do your feet hurt and your three for 39¢ "going back to school special" Bic pen doesn't bic when you put it to paper, but bics a hell of a lot when it's in your pocket or purse? Does your gut feel like a butterfly collectors' convention? Then read on bunky, 'cuz you need us!

Relax, it isn't flu. There are 7,200 others who feel just like that. You're just another victim of "orientation fever".

First, sit down and find out where the hell you are. Either ask the person next to you (chances are he won't know) or look for a sign on the nearest

building.

Next, unfold the campus map which you may have been given. This will provide a good basis from which to plan your attack. Usually you have only ten minutes between classes. The maps are coded so that you can eventually find the right building. However, you have to watch out for unmarked barriers, such as excavations still in progress, or stone walls.

If by chance you have lost your map, then wend your way back to the SUB. Head for the SUB cafeteria but don't go in. On the left, just before you enter the cafeteria, there is a large 3-D wall map of the campus.

The cafeteria brings up the

thought of food. Only the rich and the foolish care to dine in the SUB. Watch out, especially for things like coffee and hamburgers. Of course, if you have developed a cast iron stomach, this advice can be ignored. But, don't say we didn't warn you.

The SUB is not the only place to eat. Sherriff and Howe Halls have eating facilities, but Mum's home cooking, they're not. They open at 5:00 p.m. for supper.

For those living off campus we suggest that you pack a lunch or go home to eat. There are a number of reasonable restaurants around the Spring Garden Road and Quinpool Road areas.

If you decide that you are going to eat on campus, then try to get into the dining hall early to avoid the rush to the trough. You will also develop strong leg muscles within the next few months to support you as you nibble at that gangrenous hamburger while standing up.

Another problem that you will have to face is where to park your car. Dalhousie, like other universities, has the problem of over-crowded parking areas. Unfortunately, there are more cars than there is space for, so if you are within walking distance of the campus, then leave your

car at home.

The best time to find a space is before 8:30 a.m. or after 3:30 p.m. Of course, you will have to pay for the dubious privilege of using the lots. Fees range from \$30.00 for general parking to \$90.00 for an assigned space. For further information about parking, go to the Traffic Office, Central Services Bldg., Room 108, or call local 424-3344.

Having solved your eating and parking problems, you have yet to buy books. Every professor seems to think it necessary to assign a reading list. However, even the most diligent student never succeeds in reading everything on the list. DON'T make the mistake of rushing out and buying every book as soon as it's assigned. Wait awhile. You may avoid the frustrations of standing in a queue for an hour only to find out that half of the books are still on order.

Cool it for a week. Borrow a friend's book, or borrow from the library — campus or city. Watch out for bargains on various bulletin boards outside the classrooms or try the second-hand book store in the rink. Don't think that because you buy a book at the campus book store that you are getting a bargain.

New books are expensive. If

you are smart you can spend next to nothing on books. Work the angles. If you can't beg, borrow or steal, then and only then, do you buy.

There are 4 libraries on campus, the Killam Memorial, the Science, the Medical, and Kings College plus the city libraries. You can learn to use a library very easily. The people at the information desks are helpful, but if they give you a blank look — don't give up. In the end you will usually find what you are looking for. Of course, you may not be able to get the book when you want it.

Okay, we have attempted to solve some of the more pressing problems. However, if you still feel queasy then maybe you are really sick. If so, head for Dal Student Health and throw yourself on their mercy. Usually you can be squeezed in during the day. The doctors are prepared to handle anything from a broken head to a broken heart. For the bed-ridden, they will bundle you up in a nice hard bed and feed you warm soup, almost as good as mother's. Be sure to have a M.S.I. card with you.

Our last bit of advice is, "Ask questions". You may survive! Good luck!!! & Keep on Truckin'!!

TYP goes for one more year

by Glenn Wanmaker

Dalhousie's Transition Year Program has been given the go-ahead for at least one more year of operation despite the recommendation of a Senate Committee report that the university undertake a long-term commitment to the program.

The report by Professors R. L. Comeau, John D. Misick and J. Farley recommended that the program, designed to assist the educational needs of the Black and Indian communities, be assigned high priority by the university. However, Senate only approved its continuation for one more year, making no commitment for the future.

The Senate also approved one other point, that the program "be re-oriented to recruit students whose prospects in university appear reasonably good". This was carried despite the report's statement that "it would be unwise to measure success solely in terms of numbers of degrees awarded..."

With a long-term commitment, the Report said, the program could be suitably planned and organized so that the three main goals could be met. These are:

1. to assist the greatest possible number of Indian and Black students to gain a university education,
2. the development within the Indian and Black communities of better educated leadership,
3. encouragement of the development of ethnic pride and the removal of a pervasive sense of hopelessness.

This year's program will be limited to only 10 new students, chosen out of 30 applicants. The basis of its operation will be the same as in previous years; providing opportunities for minority groups and sharpening the students' skills.

This year, however, there will be no Indians enrolled in the course. According to Professor E. T. Marriott, the new Director of TYP, discussions did take place with the Union of Nova Scotia Indians, but they wanted the program to produce leaders

for their community.

At this point, said Marriott, "the university only knows how to provide academic programs."

The course outline has been expanded into a three-part program. The focus will be on a reading and writing skills program. There will also be a choice of preparatory courses in math, science and Black history and culture, and the opportunity to take one or two 100 level courses for credit.

Marriott says the credit courses are included in order to "respond to students' interests and to provide the feeling of moving towards something real". In the first two years of the program, progress was slow and "much less than anticipated".

Expectations were high, but the rate of failure was discouraging, giving rise to the feeling that the program was not doing what it should.

"Perhaps it is almost criminal to raise the expectations of young people and then have them fail and confirm their suspicions that they aren't capable. Therefore, the TYP must take a responsibility in guidance and counselling."

While it is true, says the report, that the few students are likely to get degrees, many of them will have acquired, "as a result of TYP, important assets, including self-respect, valuable skills and a sense of ethnic pride and a lessening of their sense of hopelessness."

The program's major weakness has been its "makeshift, ad hoc nature". But despite this feeling, no long range plans are being made. Prof. Marriott explains:

"We're still experimenting. It's a year of experimentation and honest effort. In April, the university will re-assess the program again."

However, if all the decisions on the recommendations of the committee are put off until then, including goals, financial and staffing requirements and definitive plans, the time will be too short to implement them for the 1973-74 year.



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