

# En route to your Dal education

So you pay three thousand-plus dollars and it's time to go to Dalhousie University. The only problem is actually getting there. If you live in residence or close enough to throw your chemistry book out the window and hit the A&A, then please ignore this article. I'm sure there's another great article just below or above this one. If you're still reading, you either live far away from Dal or you couldn't find one of those other articles. In any case, it's time to continue.

One of the biggest problems you have to overcome when you go to a university in or around your home town is getting there. The problem occurs for the poor students who must commute to campus each and every day; risking their lives in order to get to school. It would be okay if we were risking our lives to go to a giant toga party at Cindy Crawford's house, but this is school. Here are some helpful hints to try and make the situation bearable.

The way I see it, you have three options in your mode of transportation to school:

1. You could walk. If you live close enough to walk, your problems aren't half as bad as the normal off-campus student. If you happen to live a little further away like the rest of us, a three hour walk is not the quickest way to get to school. With this category I'm also going to group bicycles. I know they have been around for hundreds of years, but I really have no motivation to carry my bike seat with me to class. One time I saw a guy with his seat and both his tires in one of my classes. I was thinking, "Why is the frame locked up outside? Why didn't you just bring in the whole thing?" Other problems I have with bicycles are the cold Nova Scotia winters. If this was California, hey, what the hell. But if this was California, I wouldn't be worrying about how to get to Dal.

2. You could drive. Assuming you have your own car or mommy and daddy are nice

enough to lend you one of their's, this seems like a great idea, right? WRONG! IF you actually do get a

car, you are faced with the problem of parking. If you're thinking, "I have a

parking pass, that's no problem," you're sadly mistaken. Parking pass or no parking pass, the only way to get a spot is to come really early. It seems the Dalhousie Security have sold like three thou-

sand parking passes to the two hundred actual spaces, so even if your first class doesn't start until noon, I guess you will have to take a little nap in the Killam.

Okay, you're smarter than everyone else and you didn't buy a parking pass, you think that you will just park on the street. Great thinking, except there's still a lot of cheapos like you who want to park near campus and to top it all off, most streets around Dal are two hour parking. So either move your car every two hours or suf-

fer the threat of that fifteen dollar ticket (hint: on rainy days, you don't have to bother moving the car every two hours. I guess the Halifax police don't like the rain much either). The smarter ones will see that parking tickets in the long run will usually add up to less money than a parking pass and most people I know with a parking pass end up parking on the street anyway.

3. You could take the bus. I know no one thinks of themselves as the public transportation type,

but hey, it beats the three hour walk, and the parking problems. So you pay your \$1.30 and you're instantly transported into, well, a really...uhm, interesting place. The first rule is, don't talk to anyone. Unless you meet a long-lost relative on the bus who you haven't seen since Aunt Martha's funeral, keep your mouth shut. Think of the bus as only having two passengers, you and the driver.

My suggestion is to bring a walkman. This will signal to most people that you can't hear them. Even if your walkman doesn't work, put the headphones on. Who's going to know that you're not actually listening to Beethoven's Fifth or Beastie Boys' "Ill Communication." Once I forgot my walkman so I simply put on the headphones and led the wire into my pocket and no one was the wiser. Another good call is to bring a book but with all that bumping be prepared to read most sentences two or three times.

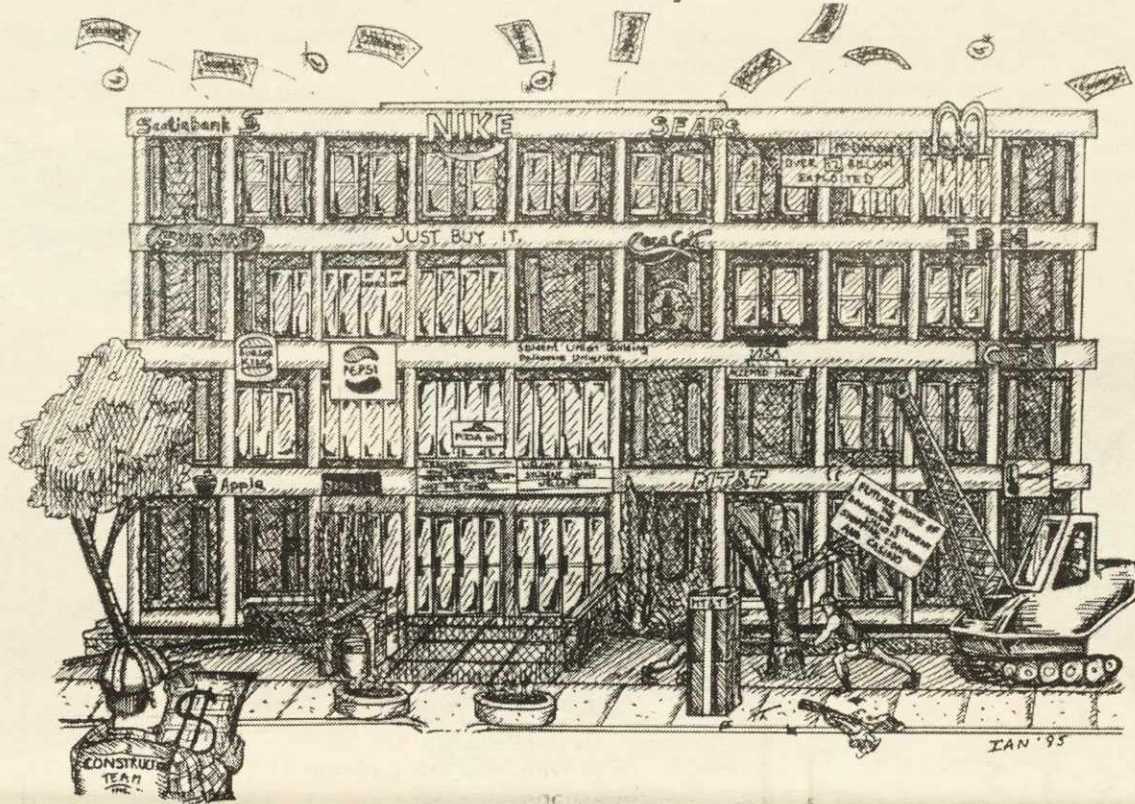
Some bus etiquette: don't wear any kind of cologne, after shave, etc. Who wants to smell "CK One" at 8:30 in the morning? It's not like you're on a hot date; you're on the bus. Pack as light as possible; the ten pound school bag will feel like seventy on the commute home.

Whichever way you decided to get to school, the most important thing is that you get there. So don't let the smell on the cramped bus or the twenty parking tickets discourage you. Remember you are not alone in your quest to attain an education.

JEFF RICHARD

## OPINION

### The SUB in five years?



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IN LAYMAN'S TERMS: "HOW TO HAIL A CAB 101"

- #1 POSITION YOURSELF CLOSE TO THE ROAD (NOT ON IT)
- #2 LOOK CASUALLY INTO THE DISTANCE (IT'S GOOD TO BE A LITTLE ALOOF)
- #3 RAISE YOUR FAVOURITE HAND SLIGHTLY ABOVE YOUR HEAD
- #4 HOLD. remember to breathe!
- #5 REMAIN CALM
- #6 VISUALIZE SUCCESS WE GUARANTEE A CAB WILL EVENTUALLY COME... (IF YOU'RE STILL THERE WHEN THE SUN COMES UP, HIT A PHONE BOOTH!)

KNOW WHEN TO DRAW THE LINE

