

Comment

Day Care at Dal

by Linda Stewart

Dalhousie needs a day care centre. The child care centres on or near campus are unavailable to most parents because of long waiting lists or less than full-time facilities.

The Centre for Child Development on campus is not a day care facility. It is a playschool, which accepts children for half days only. It is not government subsidized, although the university supplies the site, and fees are high.

The University Children's Centre, located in the Married Students Housing complex on Wellington Street, is an excellent, full-time, government-subsidized day care centre. At present, the waiting list is 85-90 families. This facility is run by the Student Housing Society, and is first available to students living in the complex. Anne MacQuarrie, the Director, explains that preference cannot be given to students outside the complex as it is a public centre, funded by the government. She estimates that 80% of the parents are students, and the rest are university staff and others, mainly professional people. Care is offered full-time, or for half days, and fees are subsidized according to income.

A telephone survey of Halifax

area public day care centres revealed few openings and waiting lists in many, particularly the well-established, centrally located facilities.

• Adult education is a valid function of any university. Any effective adult education program involves consideration of the problem of day care for students' children. There are no statistics on the number of Dalhousie students who require day care services, because the question is not asked on any of the registration material.

Ideally, day care would be available for both day and evening students, and an hourly babysitting service would be located in the library. This would give a parent the same opportunity to learn as any other student.

Both The Centre for Child Development and The University Children's Centre take children for half days. Few students can manage a half day schedule. Therefore the centres are being used for learning enrichment by parents who do not require day care. They are government subsidized playschools to free housewives for bridge and shopping. Most universities acknowledge their responsibility to provide day care facilities on campus.

At Dalhousie, Director Anna

Comment is an opinion column open to members of the university community who wish to present an informed opinion on a topic of their selection.

Keefe of the Centre for Child Development rightly says that the Centre was not intended to function as day care. It serves the dual purpose of its title and to provide research facilities for the university.

A playschool is an excellent educational device. But in view of the 85-90 families who are waiting for day care for their children, could it not be converted into a full-time facility for those who require it?

RELAXING MASSAGE

MALE & FEMALE

BY A TRAINED MASSEUR

\$2.00 PER 30 MIN.

PLEASE WRITE INCLUDING PHONE NUMBER TO:

BOX 866
ARMDALE, N.S.

NAPOLI



"Our Specialty is our Quality"

LASAGNA SPAGHETTI
open every day except Mondays

FREE DELIVERY

425-5330-1-2-3

6430 QUINPOOL RD. HALIFAX

Continued from page 4

On-Campus Housing:

- Agreement was reached with St. Mary's to make available 120 spaces for the Fall of 1976. A similar agreement was made with Pine Hill Residence for 80 spaces. As of September 21st there still remain rooms available at Pine Hill.
- According to Deans Irvine and Chanter the waiting lists for residence are much shorter than in past years. Indeed, given the number of rooms presently unclaimed there may be no waiting list at all. With this decrease in demand, overcrowding on residence facilities can be remedied.
- As of September 21st spaces were still available for women at Kings College.
- The purchase of the Glengary Apartment building by the University made available accommodation for 60 women.
- It is submitted that, to the degree students turn down available residence accommodation in favour of off-campus housing, they contribute to the strain on the limited supply in the peninsula thereby hurting low-income tenants who do not have the choice of living in residences reserved for students.

Off-Campus Housing:

It is here that the most acute problems arise. As stated in an interview with the Mail-Star, but not cited by the Gazette, there is no question but that there is "a shortage of low-rent apartment-type dwellings in the immediate vicinity of the universities." Having identified the issue let us look at how it has been addressed:

- More than 1000 spaces were made available through the University Off-Campus Housing Office during the past summer. Mrs. Hambling, the Director of that office has strongly supported student requests for more conventional apartment facilities rather than enlarging residences.
- Over 3000 flyers were circulated in the vicinity of the University requesting new listings with the Office. In addition advertisements were taken out in the local dailies.

As a result many units previously unlet were brought onto the market without dispossessing established tenants.

- Through the efforts of Mr. John Graham, Director of Housing, 80 rooms were made available at the Lord Nelson Hotel on a monthly basis. There are still some rooms available. Arrangements were also made for the provision of rooms at reasonable rates for those requiring temporary accommodation.
- New listings were secured with nearby tourist homes and the Halifax Business Academy. From reports these have proved most satisfactory.

Such is the housing situation at the present moment. It is less than perfect but, I submit, it does not constitute a crisis.

**Barbara Beach
Student Union Housing Secretary**

The front page article on Housing in the 9 September issue was not intended as a telling indictment of the housing situation at Dalhousie or those responsible for housing. It was though a warning cry and possible word of advice for those facing a need for accommodation and insufficient funds to meet that which is available.

Perhaps, since there are many others in Halifax who have investigated the student housing question we were not totally wrong if we agreed with the many rather than a few. Editor's note

Thank-you

To the Gazette:

The dedication of your Student Handbook to my husband caused me to thrill with pride even while I experienced afresh the continuing deep sorrow I feel because of his absence from my life.

It was such a beautiful thing to do, and so beautifully done. Nothing would have pleased him more or given him such a satisfying sense of true achievement.

With all my heart I thank each and every one of you who participated in such a wonderful testimonial.

Miriam Guptill
continued on p. 6

ARGYLE TV SALES & SERVICE

2063 GOTTINGEN ST. Ph. 422-5930
BAYERS ROAD SHOPPING CENTRE Ph. 453-0119

- ▶ WE CARRY BRAND NAMES IN STEREO EQUIPMENT:
- ▶ PIONEER, KENWOOD, SONY, R.C.A. AND MANY MORE

TELEVISION RENTALS

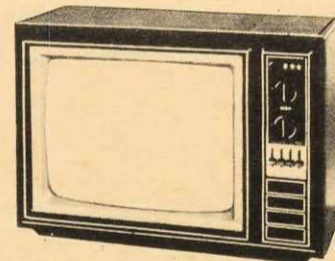
Available only at Gottingen St. Location

12 in. B&W

\$5.00 wk.
\$12.50 mo.

19in. B&W

\$5.00 wk.
\$15.00 mo.



20 in.
COLOUR
\$25.00 mo.

Counselling and Psychological

Services Centre

4th Floor, SUB

424-2081

Programs for personal growth:

- Career Planning
- Relaxation Training
- Stress Management
- Couples Counselling
- Assertive Training

- Study Skills
- Shyness Clinic
- Headache Control
- Test Anxiety
- Mature Students

--or--

Individual counselling to meet your needs.

Confidentiality carefully observed.