

## Student leaders contradictory?

# Dal students-housing shortage

Several hundred Dalhousie students returned to Halifax this week to find that the housing shortage of last year has only grown worse.

True, the administration did purchase a small apartment building on Edward street this summer but this only displaces other penninsula residents who are subsequently taking housing from students elsewhere. As well, this residence is only going to house sixty students. Hardly a major advance in any student housing cause.

Last year, in the hopes of remedying some of the housing crisis, the administration expanded the men's residence. In fact, this meant putting two people in a room designed for one person and putting three people in a room designed for only two. The resulting physical and psychological damage has yet to be tallied, and probably never will be.

The student union presents an interesting picture on this housing question.

In mid-August student union housing secretary Barbara Beach stated in local media that there no housing problem exists for Dalhousie students. She was likely referring to the availability of housing off the peninsula. Student union general manager and university housing director John Graham agreed with Beach's analysis of the situation and, again in local media, was quoted as saying that there is no housing problem.

On the other hand, student union president Gordon Neal said Thursday: "I have had at least 50 to 100 people approach me personally about housing and I have looked into it for them. Not only is it absolutely impossible to find anything in the university area, it is damn near impossible to find anything anywhere in this area." The apparent difference in opinion does little to console the home-less student.

Neal did have another thought on the matter. Referring to the possible housing that exists far from the campus he said, "The main problem is inadequate transit. If students could live outside the peninsula and be certain of getting to their classes on time without having to get up three hours early, then housing in the suburbs and small towns would be realistic possibility. Right now it is only a possibility for student with their own transportation, and we should not expect every student to own a car."

While the student politicians settle their differences the average student still has to struggle with the fact that s/he has no place to live. Pressure tactics that have proven successful at other universities include tent cities, special ads in the local newspapers asking residents to board students, and lobbying with the university administration for better housing plans and facilities for the years to come.

The accompanying map shows areas for camping on the Dalhousie campus. While these next few

weeks certainly are not the warmest, this may well prove to be the cheapest and most effective action you can take. It will be embarrassing for both the student politicians and

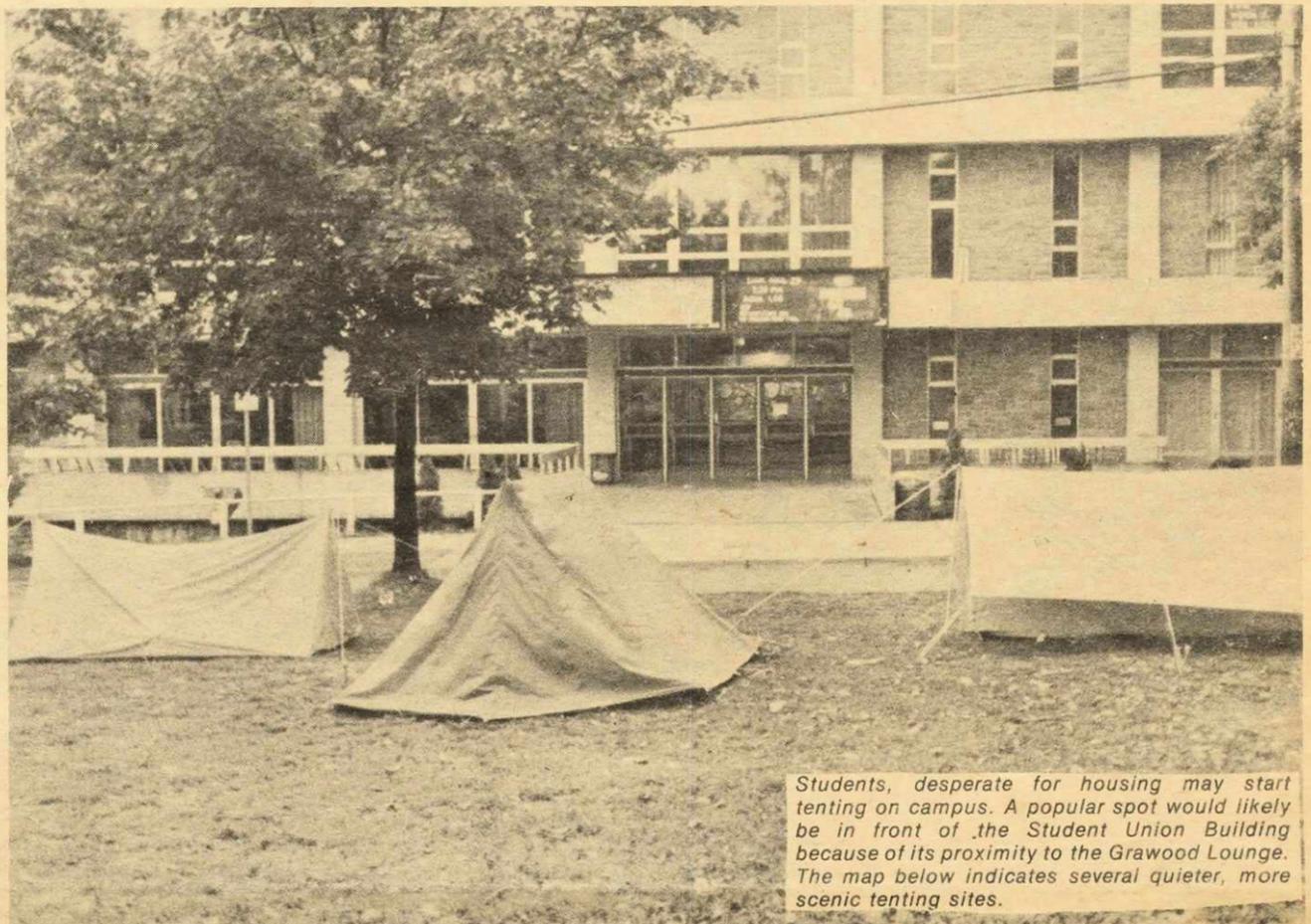
the university administration to acknowledge that they have not adequately dealt with what to you is a crisis situation. Try tenting, you may have to enjoy it.

## the dalhousie gazette

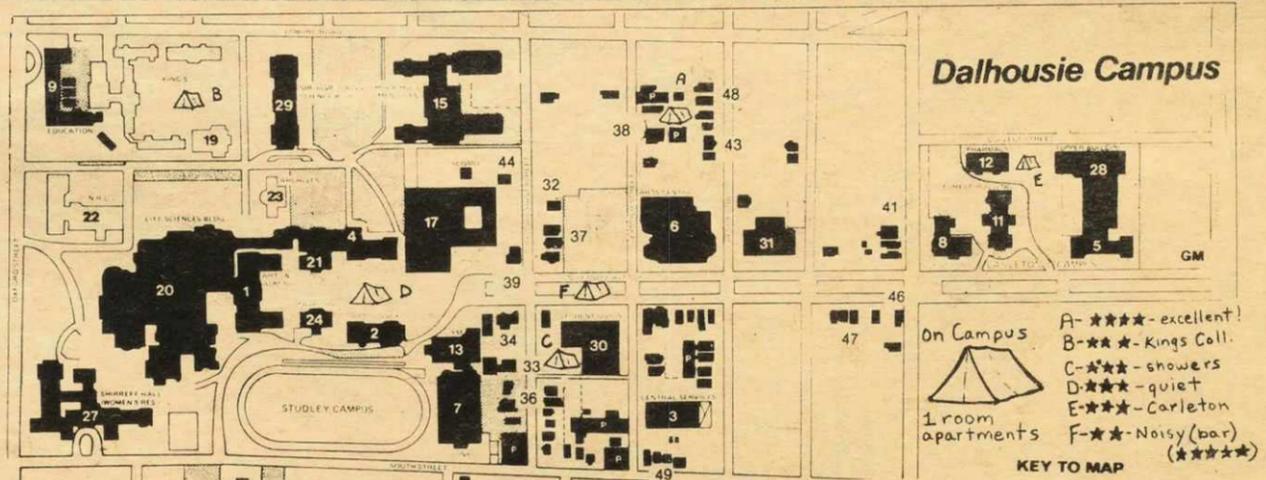
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Students, desperate for housing may start tenting on campus. A popular spot would likely be in front of the Student Union Building because of its proximity to the Grawood Lounge. The map below indicates several quieter, more scenic tenting sites.



## Fee hike and quota

### International Students

OTTAWA (CUP) -- While schools were empty this summer actions taken in three provinces have made it harder for international students to return. The Ontario government tripled tuition fees for international students starting in January. The Alberta government set aside the fall of 1977 to introduce a differential fee and two of Manitoba's three universities imposed quotas.

Alberta moved first. On April 28 the minister of advanced education Dr. Bert Hohol claimed university officials had agreed "in principle" that differential fees would have to be levied because of space shortages and high costs. But University

of Calgary president Bill Cochrane said there had been no formal consultation while Henry Gunning, president of the University of Alberta said, "If anything, I think we have an inadequate number of foreign students."

Hohol's blunders didn't stop there. The day after the announcement he said higher fees would not apply to college students. But he reversed that stand May 11. Two days after the announcement he added landed immigrants to the higher fee list but also reversed that decision May 11.

The Ontario government moved

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**Gazette staff meeting Friday at 4:00**  
**All interested people are invited to attend. Room 334 of the SUB.**

## Inside This Week

Orientation Calendar  
Student Aid Special, including  
"How to Apply for Student Aid"  
Support Staff Without Contract

## Coming Next Week

The Dalhousie International  
CBC Discrimination  
Summer Council Wrap-up

