

ONE MORE TIME

Parking Problems Worse

For years the Dalhousie Gazette used to carry in the first publication an article, not inappropriately titled, "Parking Still a Problem at Dalhousie." It was one of those yearly jokes that one could come to expect of the Gazette, a reminder that the editors were still short on story ideas for the first edition (not to mention staff).

Well, parking is still a problem, and it's not getting better. On September 1st, City Hall hoisted parking fines to \$15 for all parking violations, save those incurred at the one-arm bandits. Meter violations still remain at \$2. The problem, of course, is that Dalhousie also issues parking tickets, and anyone without a parking sticker who is caught on Dal property is also fined \$15. (It might be made known that Dal supposedly does not get any kickback from the city coffers. It is also a fact that Dal seldom prosecutes violators if you



want to fight the ticket in court - but the judge might add on court costs if they do and you are subsequently convicted.

The problem is compounded by Dalhousie's antiquated method of issuing parking permits. Although Dal states that they do not issue more parking permits that there are spaces to park cars, because of the nature of undergraduate classes, most of the parking spaces on the upper campus are overfull, while those in other areas are less than full. The university never turns anyone down for a parking space, so if there are payees showing up at the upper campus, they also get in, further aggravating the problem.

Halifax City Police also discriminate against the Dal student, although HPD will never publicly admit this. During the summer months there were few police motorcycle engines to mar the silence of University Avenue. One could park all day in the one hour time zones, and seldom be given a ticket. Now, however, with the school year about to begin, the motorcycles are making their hourly runs, marking tires and generally making a nuisance of themselves. What, then, is a student to do if, a) he cannot get a university parking space within reasonable walking distance of his classes, or, b) if he finds himself out on the street with a two hour class, and parked in the one hour zones?

Several courses are open to the student. By far the most pragmatic is for students needing cars to get to classes to offer rides to others, and work out some arrangement to share expenses. Car pools are in

this year - thanks to John Turner and his \$.15 gasoline tax. If you have a ride to offer, or need a drive to classes, use the "Ride Board" in the Student Union Building.

Another alternative is to use public transit. For those living in Spryfield or Fairview, this might pose some difficulty, given Halifax's 19th Century transit system. It might be advantageous for the Student Union to present a brief to Halifax Transit, asking for special bus routes; that, however, seems a distant, if not improbable course of action, since whatever action the Union takes would require months of intense lobbying by Council. Hopefully, however, this is something that Council might pursue during the year.

Finally, if you have to park on the street, remember this rule. Police usually mark the back tires with chalk, so that a line goes from tire to pavement. Rub the marks off your tires if you have them. Rounds are usually made by police officers once every hour and ten minutes, so try to check your car during that period for markings.

Finally, if you do get a ticket, it usually pays to go to court and plead "Not Guilty." The problems with this approach are numerous. Although the officer may not show up (or, if he does show up, you can always tell the judge that you simply "forgot" to pay the fine, or you lost the ticket, etc.), chances are reasonable that the fine will not exceed the \$15. But \$15 is only the minimum fine that the judge can levy; he (or she) can also add on court costs, etc. The chance you take, therefore, is strictly your own.

Read Before Eating

by Alan McHughen

For those of you entering the cafeteria for the first time, be warned that this is among the most dubious of introductions to our Student Union. The subject of food, or lack thereof, commonly fills the conversation here, as it is something everybody has a similar opinion of. However, we have to remember that food (?) prepared for thousands will be insipid compared to food prepared for a few. In light of this, the food people for the cafeteria (Saga Foods) is aiming at improving service rather than Quality (although they promise better quality food as well.)

Returning students will notice certain changes in the format of the cafeteria itself. Instead of one long line going through, picking up a meal, standing in line waiting for it to get cold before reaching the cashier; we now have three long lines, to pick up a meal, stand in line and wait for it to get cold before reaching the cashier.

For those of you confused by the sudden lack of disorganization, here is a guided tour through the food lines.

HOT FOOD: Go in through the turnstile, at the former main entrance, pick up food on your right, continue along, make sure you have cutlery, etc. At the barricade, make two quick left turns, and

follow the line to the cashier. Caution: Don't put your tray down, as there are no rails yet.

GRILL ITEMS: Find the rat hole door in the glass partition and join the line. Realize why we no longer call this "fast food". After picking up your Greaseburger, join the cooling line on your left. Don't forget condiments, cutlery, Bromo etc. while you wait for the cashier to decide what she's going to charge you today.

DELI BAR: This should be set up on the west wall of the cafeteria by the time classes start again, where the cutlery tray used to be. Simply go up to the bar, and decide what you want. If they don't have it, ASK. They sometimes get lazy and don't keep the supply up. There should be a cashier right there, so don't go back to one of the other lines. Condiments also should be at hand.

As an alternative, the Grawood offers beer and drinks with their sandwiches. And for new students who wouldn't know better, the mass confusion in the cafeteria generally clears up by the end of September, as people get fed up (literally) and find somewhere else to eat.

Any comments or queries concerning food or the cafeteria can be directed to me personally, through my Council mail box, or through the suggestion box located in the middle of the cafeteria.

Petition to be circulated

at Registration

by M. Mitchell

A committee to oppose the latest tuition fee increase has been formed by a group of both graduate and undergraduate students, was formed in early July with co-operation from both the Student Union and the Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students, but is not affiliated with either of these groups.

Since July the group has been active in publicizing the tuition increase issue around campus and

attempting to determine student response to the issue through a mailed questionnaire.

As opponents of the tuition increase the committee has proposed that: 1) the latest fee be revoked; 2) a more acceptable procedure be established with the administration for matters affecting students' finances; 3) the Student Union investigate university spending and draft a public report suggesting ways in which the university can generate revenue without affecting the quality of education or increasing student fees; 4) there be a 5 year freeze on tuition fee increases.

With adequate student support the committee plans to convey these proposals to President Hicks and Premier Regan through petitions and a possible campus demonstration.

The Committee to Oppose the Tuition Fee Increase will be circulating a petition requesting student support during registration. The petition will be forwarded by the committee to Henry Hicks, President of Dalhousie. Those students who have already registered and wish to sign (i.e. Law students, Health Professions, students, etc.) can find copies of the petition below the Committee posters in various areas of campus or at the SUB Inquiry Desk. All students are encouraged to sign.

Students concerned with this issue who want to assist the committee can contact Paul Evans at 424-3894 or in Room 312 of the A & A Building.

