

THE

DISPATCH

Dispatch
breaks
crime
ring

Vol. 7 Issue 1 Sept. 18, 1987

From the Pres

A warm welcome to all new and returning Dalhousie students. If last week's orientation activities are anything to go by, the upcoming year promises to be a lively and exciting one.

As President of the Dalhousie Student Union, my job is to ensure that the organization that you and every Dal student belongs to works to address your concerns and needs. By the programmes and services we offer, and by speaking up for students to the university and the government, we hope that we can make a

difference in your life as a Dal student.

From help with student aid or an academic appeal to where to buy your next Super SUB tickets, feel free to call the Student Union at any time (424-2146). And if you'd like to get more involved, please come and see me (Room 222, SUB).

A friend of mine likes to say, "Being a university student isn't a ticket to the good life. It is the good life." So get involved, work hard, and have a good year!

Caroline Zayid
President
Dalhousie Student Union

At the Cohn

Wednesday, September 30 at 8:00 p.m., there's going to be some hot rocking at the Cohn with **Matt Minglewood** and his band. To round off the night — special guests **McGinty**.

Cape Breton musician **Matt Minglewood** has spent fifteen years touring back and forth across Canada. In fact, he figures there's no one in the music business who

tours more than he does.

His style is country rock to rock and blues and his skill has made him a legend.

The four members of his band are **Bobby Woods**, **Rolly Platt**, **Grant Leslie** and **John Lee**, all local boys who know their stuff.

Tickets for the concert are \$11.50.

Come to the Student Leadership Conference on October 3. All registered societies are welcome. For details, call the Alumni Office, 424-2071 (6250 South Street) or the Student Council Office at 424-

2146. Sponsored by the Student Union and the Dalhousie Alumni Association. Join the parade!

From the V.P.

Welcome back to new and returning students. Hopefully the summer has left you "well-rested" and ready for the year ahead.

This year's entertainment lineup looks exciting. We have had some lucky breaks and I believe that the new entertainment committee will make a difference.

Make sure you get involved this year, starting with frosh week and through to April.

If you have any questions or are interested in the Student Union, please drop by for a free tour of the Greenwood. We look forward to meeting you.

We look forward to meeting you.

Ian McCarthy
Dalhousie Student Union
Vice-President

Break the chains

APARTHEID



The Atlantic Canada Regional Conference on Southern Africa will be held Sept. 19-20 at the Burke Education Centre, St. Mary's University.

Show your solidarity and become aware of how apartheid affects the whole Southern African

region. Students from across Canada are currently mobilizing — your participation is urgent.

Call **Juanita Montalvo** at 424-3527 (office) or 420-1337 (home) or drop into Community Affairs, Room 214, SUB.

Diary of Phileas Frosh

Diary: I arrived at Dalhousie yesterday and already I hate it. This is no place for a human who knows that he is an existentialist. I am living in a closet called a residence room in a place called Howe Hall. Solitary confinement would be more luxurious.

And it isn't even solitary. This box the size of a paper bag with walls is to match is meant to house two bipeds for a school year. Inhuman. My roommate is not an existentialist and does not appreciate J.P. Sartre and thought *The Outsider* was a great street gang movie. His name is **Biff** and he has arms the size of my chest. **Biff** plays every sport known to humanity and others that only space creatures would indulge in. He got drunk last night and threw up all over my rare stamp collection. He did offer to buy me new ones at the drug store.

His girlfriend was over last night as well. They locked me out of the

matchbox, forcing me to sleep in the stairwells like a common criminal. My back feels like pain-racked Jello even as I write.

Today, haggard as I was, I dragged myself over to the A&A to check my class time. Everything was abbreviated in a most confusing manner. For some reason, Thursday appears as 'R' and there is more nonsense I am afraid to relate. Apparently there is a building called the 'LSC' on campus. I hope I can find it.

Later I checked with the Registrar because of a course conflict. One is on at the same time as the midday news. She did not share my concern but I found out that I had more A classes than B ones and had to rework my entire schedule. I now have labs till midnight and had to forfeit statistics for a course in comparative mythology.

I am bordering on a nervous breakdown.

Biff's schedule appears

extremely lazy. He told me that he picked classes so that he didn't have to wake up until noon. That is no way to attend an institution of higher learning, in my opinion. **Biff** says that he wants a joint degree in Commerce and Religion so he can be an accountant for **Jim Bakker**. That's an attitude for you.

It is getting late, almost 10:00. I will not let university interfere with my sleep patterns. **Biff** is out somewhere and I have hid the stamp collection from him. Outside the door it sounds like the beaches of Normandy. I wish if they're going to play loud music that they would get together and play the same thing. Right now it's white noise.

I don't know how I will survive first year at this rate. I have a headache and feel like I'm 21.

Tomorrow **Biff** says we will go halves on tequila. Whatever that is. I hope I live through to Thanksgiving.

Editorial of sorts

Beware the ides of September. No, wait, that can't be right. But no matter, I signed up for a Shakespeare course this fall. September, fall, course and more, these are the words I have come to associate with Halifax, as most returning students have and new ones soon will.

Geese and other such beasts fly south; Dalhousie students come to the roosts of the Dunn, LSC, Killam and others. Perhaps it is a homing instinct; it might make an interesting thesis. Whatever the cause, there are approximately 12,000 of us out there, roaming the halls and trying to learn something. God knows what will happen.

Still, the Dispatch wants everyone to start out on a cheery note. What is the Dispatch? A question I have asked myself. The Dispatch is a service of the DSU and is intended to be a mini-newsletter for the various societies and associations found on campus. If you happened to drop by Downtown Dalhousie during Orientation week, you would have seen many of the groups that we feature this week and hope to hear from in the coming issues. We want our little paper to keep the students informed about what is going on in this hectic university and have some fun along the way.

To this end, the Dispatch needs contributors. It is the various societies that will keep us going and staff writers that will spice up the news.

All is not upcoming events: the Dispatch will feature small lighter articles in its format, something along the lines of what is in this flagship edition for this academic year. In such vein, anyone out there with a neglected typewriter who would like to submit some strange and twisted tales to us are more than welcome.

We need regular contributors, feature writers, a cartoonist, another cartoonist, one more cartoonist, and anyone who likes the idea of working for a slightly off-

base organization.

No experience necessary. Honest.

Still, it is the society news that keeps us going and I hope those presidents and VPs out there will come on in and drop off slates of upcoming events or anything else that the rest of Dal would like to see. We want you to be the media.

The Dispatch will be published theoretically every second week. We operate out of the Council Room in the SUB, Room 222. Just like the series. If you are interested, even vaguely, drop by. The office at the moment measures three inches (about seven cm for the SI freaks) by a couple of

decimetres. It's just a mail-shelf now but wait till I move in the file cabinets, pool table and bar set.

Anyway, any submissions should be addressed to the Dispatch, and the secretaries at the front will be happy to help you. Leave your name and number and I'll get in touch. We need you and want to welcome you into the asylum known as the Dispatch. Hope to hear from you.

If you find it difficult to find the place in the SUB, feel free to phone 455-2195 and ask for John. The Dispatch is here for Dal, and we need Dal to help us out.

Damn, my typewriter just exploded.

Screw and Feminism

Featuring Susan Cole — radical feminist, journalist and author, and Al Goldstein, publisher of *Screw* magazine.

- ★ Porn vs. Erotica
- ★ Censorship vs. Freedom of Speech
- ★ Pornography vs. Violence
- ★ Sexism or Liberation

The Dispatch is a service of the Dalhousie Student Union.

Editor-in-Spirit: Henry Miller

Association Editor-in-Spirit — H.S. Thompson

Editor: John Blackmore

Staff this time around:

Kuakalo Ararwak (B.A., M.A.)

Phileas

Durf

Zwick

Dion Durnford

Aurelio Sablone

Dr. Who

Angela Underwood

DSU people Phi Kap Rep

Alpha Gamma Delta

And more . . .

Tysetting: Robert Matthews/Gazette Graffix

Sept. 30th
8:00 p.m.
McInnes Room
Dal SUB

\$4 students
\$5 faculty, staff and alumni
\$6 general public



Position Open

Interim Executive Officer for Students' Union of Nova Scotia

Term Position: 13 weeks, October 5-December 4, 1987 and January 4-29, 1988. 20 hours per week. Salary negotiable.

The job: This part-time job involved administering the affairs of the Students' Union of Nova Scotia, including managing the office of Dalhousie university, maintaining records and files for the organization, and organizing and publicizing events and meetings, all under the direction of a volunteer executive.

Qualifications: The successful candidate should be well-organized and able to work with minimum supervision, and have

some knowledge and interest in issues concerning post-secondary education. Some typing is required. Knowledge of financial record-keeping and office uses of microcomputers would be an asset. Senior university students will be considered, provided excellent time-management skills can be proven and a reasonable schedule can be worked out.

Deadline: All applications should be in the SUNS office by Friday, September 18, 1987.

Apply with resume to: Students' Union of Nova Scotia Room 324 6136 University Ave. (Dalhousie SUB) Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 4J2

AIESEC

Dear Mom and Dad,

I'm having a terrific time at Dal. My classes are great. You should see my Calculus prof! I've joined AIESEC (that's pronounced 'eye-sec'), the International Association for Students of Commerce, Computer Science and Economics. It happens to be the world's largest student-run organization and is found in 64 countries at over 500 universities.

In Canada alone, AIESEC is located at 37 universities from here to Vancouver.

The whole idea behind AIESEC is to balance the theory we learn in class with practical business experience. It also promotes international understanding and cooperation through a job exchange program with those 64 countries. I could qualify for some job experience in some other part of the world!

That's not all! AIESEC is always running activities such as seminars, business luncheons, career days and special projects.

Also, they participate in dances, winter carnival events and parties. The experience I gain in AIESEC will prepare me for the business world, and I'm meeting a lot of great people. I'm really looking forward to the upcoming school year.

Love,
Your Hardworking and Devoted Child.
(P.S. Send more money!)

From the Treasurer

Greetings to all new and returning students! And best wishes for a successful upcoming year.

With the help of the SUB General Manager, Department heads, and staff, I administer the Union finances and supervise the preparation and implementation of the annual budget on behalf of the students. I'm also a resource person and am generally available to answer any questions students may have.

Presently all full-time students pay \$103 towards their student fees, while part-time students pay \$22. The fees are broken down as follows:

If you have any further questions regarding the above or how your money is spent, please drop by the Council office or phone 424-2146 and ask for Shane.

Good luck in the coming year.
Shane Feriancek
Treasurer, DSU

STUDENT UNION FEES 1987/88

\$35.00	\$16.00	General income for operations
\$23.00		Student health plan insurance
\$15.00	\$4.00	Contribution to capital campaign
\$10.00		Capital payback for Student Union Building
\$9.00	\$2.00	CKDU-FM
\$4.50		Yearbook Fee
\$4.00		Canadian Union of Nova Scotia membership
\$1.50		Students' Union of Nova Scotia membership
\$.50		Course Evaluation
\$103.00	\$22.00	

WIN! WIN! WIN!

Testbooks are an expensive fact of university life, at least until they can reproduce *Paradise Lost* unto microfiche. I never understood microfiche anyway.

The first Dispatch contest centres on texts. We want to hear from the student who had to purchase the single most expensive book for a course in an undergraduate program. In case of a tie, well, we'll scale the marks or something.

The prize? Dinner at the Garden Cafeteria. I know it sounds cheap but we aren't Publishers Clearing House.

Drop off the name of the text, with price, of course, and whatever else you would like to say about it to Room 222 of the SUB, addressed to the Dispatch. Please leave your name and number so we can get in touch with you.

Buy those books!

DAL-TUNS Chinese Association!

Here is my hearty welcome to you all in Nova Scotia. The aim of our association is not only to provide recreation services such as movie nights, football tournaments and parties, but also to promote friendship and a wide acquaintance among members. This year, we are going to provide more services for you. These innovations include a Dal-TUNS Chinese Student Association writing pad and a desktop

calendar for every member, a brand-new office for borrowing Chinese novels, magazines, and many other things which are on our list, and topic seminars. I sincerely hope that you can give support by participation.

At present, we have around one hundred members. This is a very special year for them because it is the 30th anniversary of the association. In all these years we continue

to grow and try our best effort to improve. This history shows the value and importance of the association. It also reveals how much you have given yourselves by taking part in something both meaningful and worthwhile.

As the vice-president of the association, I feel the importance of doing my best in the days to come. And I need your advice and support all the time.

Your sincerely,
Michael Hou
Vice-President

Sodales

Sodales, Dalhousie University's Debating Society, offers a special welcome to all new students at Dalhousie.

Do you need to brush up or improve your public speaking or debating skills? Here's your opportunity.

We hold regular weekly meetings in which we try to encourage the development of oratorical skills. Membership is open to all Dalhousie students. Sodales takes pride in its informal and relaxed atmosphere. We depend on the

input from all members — old and new.

The range of activities offered by Sodales includes public workshops, orientations tournaments, public speaking, club debates, exhibition debates, and competitive tournaments amongst various Canadian universities.

New members, spectators and hecklers are always welcome.

We hold meetings on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Student Council Chambers (second floor of the Student Union Building). So come out and give us a try.

Computer fax

DSCSS (pronounced Dis'-cus) is the society which represents the Computing Science students at Dalhousie. Any student who is enrolled in a computer science course is automatically a member. The objectives of DSCSS are as follows:

1) To promote the interests of the students of computing science at Dalhousie;

2) to provide a central and unified voice on behalf of its members in and outside the University when such discussions may affect the members either directly or indirectly;

3) to act as a social institution for the benefit of the members.

The executives of DSCSS are elected each year. This year's executives are:

President — Aurelio Sablone

Vice-President — Marco Imperatore

Treasurer — Trent MacDougall

Secretary — Kevin Davies

DSCSS is responsible for holding tutorials for new users of the VAX 750 computer as well as tutorials for computing science students before exams. DSCSS also informs its members of upcoming events in the city which would be of interest to those in computing science. Two such events that will take place in Sep-

tember are the Halifax Computer/Office Technology Show and the CIPS-sponsored Careers Night.

The Halifax Computer/Office Technology Show will take place Wednesday, September 16th from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Thursday, September 17th from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Halifax Metro Centre. Registration at the door costs \$6.00.

At the show you will be able to see the latest in computers, office machines, and equipment. There will also be experts giving seminars on applying the latest in Information Technology, Desk-top Computing and other new developments in business. Information about registering for these seminars can be obtained by calling 422-6447.

Careers Night, which is sponsored by CIPS (Canadian Information Processing Society), will take place Wednesday, September 30, 1987 at 7:00 p.m. in the School of Architecture, Technical University of Nova Scotia, 5410 Spring Garden Road, Room H19.

Representatives from firms involved in various sectors of the information industry will be making brief presentations focusing on their company's activities and how these affect hiring practices. Presenters include IBM Canada, Cen-

tral Trust Company, Maritime Tel & Tel, and the DMR Group.

Careers Night was also held last year, and the students who attended were very impressed by the speakers who gave an employer's perspective on the hiring of computing science students.

DSCSS also provides an opportunity for its members to get together in an informal atmosphere along with friends and professors in our bi-weekly bashes. They are held every other Friday afternoon at 5:00 p.m. in the staff lounge in the basement of the A&A building. In addition, DSCSS, along with the Math Club, hosts a large Christmas and Year End bash where there is plenty of free food for members of the society and guests (the beverages are not free!).

This year, DSCSS will be selling T-shirts, sweatshirts, and Beer Mugs with the DSCSS logo on them to raise funds for the society. As well, we will be hosting various bake sales in the SUB and 50/50 lotteries, which will be drawn for at our bi-weekly bashes.

DSCSS is there for computing science students who have any questions or computing science-related problems. The executive is always willing to help out.

Aurelio Sablone
President of DSCSS

Read
on

Catch the Spirit!

Fraternity Row

Sigma

by Dion Durnford

Sigma Chi has been around for over 130 years with around 200 chapters across North America and over 140,000 living members. What keeps this organization so strong for such a period of time? Well, superficially, fraternities are well-known for their social aspects of university life because this is the only true visible part of any non-member. Only ignorance prevents one from seeing that education is the major basis of all fraternities. It is the common academic requirements along with the social aspects that allow for the strong intangible bond of brotherhood to be formed.

At Sigma Chi, as with other organizations, you get out what you put in. There are opportunities for leadership and responsibility

Chi

that brothers are encouraged to participate in, but it is up to the individual. Sigma Chi also prides itself on its community service. Last year we raised money for multiple sclerosis and Child Find by our annual Tramp-a-Thon. We also participated in a Red Cross blood drive and a can food drive for Hope Cottage. This year we expect to raise even more money for various organizations.

If you wish to find out more, then feel free to drop by the house at 6118 South Street for our wine and cheese Wednesday, September 16th at 8:00 p.m. You may also contact Andy Stewart at 479-2400. Sigma Chi can be a rewarding part of university life, and this is why we say, "You'll find it here".

Alpha Gamma Delta

Hi! We're the Alpha Gamma Delta Women's Fraternity. Our members include students from Dalhousie University, Mount Saint Vincent University, and University of King's College. We are an international organization and Dalhousie's only fraternity for women. Our goals include friendship, scholarship, and altruism. We feel that getting involved in other activities enhances the university experience and makes a big university a little smaller. It's also a great way to meet new people.

Our organization offers varied social activities, including events with other men's fraternities on

campus and intramural sports. We also do volunteer work in the community, working with disabled people, visiting children's hospitals and old age homes, etc.

Becoming involved in Alpha Gamma Delta allows you to join in activities you may not encounter as an individual. Our activities will provide you with organizational skills and leadership qualities. The experience lasts a lifetime; it doesn't end with graduation. So come on! Rush parties start September 21, 1987.

We'd love to meet you!

For more information, phone Nancy at 443-3768 or Charlene at 429-1549.

Phi Kappa Pi

Situated across from Camp Hill Hospital is the only true Canadian fraternity, and also the only chapter east of Montreal of that fraternity. This is Phi Kappa Pi, formed in 1913 in Toronto and stretching to Dalhousie in 1923. Being the most traditional fraternity on campus, it operates in much the same manner that it did in 1923: dependence on tried-and-true methods and a loyalty between its members that goes far beyond friendship.

The social aspect of the fraternity is always lively, but this is only the surface of what makes this fraternity what it is. The public service deeds performed, the participation of Phi Kap in campus activities, and the personal excellence that its members are encouraged to strive for all combining to create a unique and vibrant organization.

In just the last year, Phi Kappa Pi has distinguished itself by supporting the Isaac Walton Killam Hospital, the Famous People Players theatre, and handicapped children. As well, the fraternity captured the Winter Carnival title last year in a heated contest which included another fraternity, most campus societies, and the residences.

Phi Kaps sit on most levels of student government and within most other campus groups. The outside activities speak for themselves, but to truly know Phi Kap, one should get to know its members.

If you are truly interested in finding out more about Canada's only national fraternity, drop in at 1770 Robie St. and say hello to the guys. The Great White North's only national fraternity awaits your visit and bids you welcome!

Dr. Who?

The Doctor Who Society was founded on the Dalhousie Campus two years ago. It is probably the only campus society that is not sport-, academic-, frat-, or exclusive-oriented. It is a relaxed, friendly group of people who are interested in the British science fiction show **Doctor Who**.

However, the members are not solely interested in this one programme. **Star Trek, The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy,**

Monty Python, Blake's Seven, and just about everything else that can be found in the known universe, and Dalhousie.

If you are looking for a place to flaunt your bizarre nature and/or humour and have no overt delusions of ruling the universe, or the Student union, this society is for you.

The following is a brief list of some of our wide range of activities: watching **Doctor Who,** pro-

ducing a magazine, organizing science fiction talks and visits from science fiction writers, filming amateur videos, contacting other groups world-wide, having a good time, and everything else.

The **Doctor Who** society will be having its first Saturday meeting Sat., Sept. 19 in Room 318 of the SUB at 6:00 p.m.

Meetings will continue every Saturday in the same room at the same time until the Daleks invade again or until further notice.

Howe Hall

On behalf of the 525 members of the Howe Hall Residents' Society, I would like to welcome both new and returning Dalhousians to what has already proven to be a very enthusiastic year of living in spirited community. In particular, I encourage each and every student embarking on his or her first year of study at Dalhousie to challenge themselves to greater heights and experience as much of the excitement as possible.

Learn about your university, university life, and most importantly about yourself.

Through what I consider to be the initial three years of a long and expensive professional student career, I have learned a few things about Dal and university life in general. One of the most obvious yet striking realizations is that universities by their very design are able to maximize the learning environment for those who have chosen to become one of its members.

Chances abound for us to learn and grow like never before, all within a campus that is larger than most of our home towns. Our University offers a diversity that in many ways is like no other campus in the Atlantic provinces.

I strongly encourage each and every Dalhousian to become active on campus and to join the many already active, vibrant communities open for membership.

Jerry Byrne
President,
Howe Hall

Get Involved

Council Appointments
Orientation Chair
Winter Carnival
Chair
Course Evaluation
Member at Large
Grad Class Pres
Recording Secretary

Committees

SUB Ops
Constitution
Communications
Honour Awards
Student Advocacy
Service
Advisory
External Affairs
Academic
Health Plan
Security
Finance

Applications available
Sept. 17, Student Council Office. closing date
Sept. 24.



Third Thursday

As a new student at Dalhousie, you will be faced with many challenges and opportunities. Dalhousie's Third Thursday is designed to help you succeed. On October 1 (that's the Third Thursday of classes) you will have a chance to discover the University's resources and find out how we can help you as you juggle new studies, new friends, and many more new demands on your time and energy. **I Never Realized** — 10:00 a.m. & 2:00 p.m., Room 224, SUB: Ms. Sandy Hodson

University is different from high school. You've chosen Dalhousie — get the most out of it! This session will help you to develop an effective approach to university life. Balancing studies and social time doesn't need to be like walking a tightrope. Examples from students will help you understand the university system and how you can fit in more comfortably. Join Sandy for this fast-paced workshop! You'll be one step ahead. **Writer's Cramp** — 11:00 a.m.

and 3:00 p.m., Room 224, SUB — Ms. Louise Young

"The Writer's Cramp" will help you to learn the skills you need to write more easily and clearly by using concise language to express ideas, opinions, arguments, requests, or instructions. You will learn how you can experience the satisfaction of articulating thoughts, of finding the precise word and developing an effective writing style.

Information Bazaar

By taking the time to stop and familiarize yourself with Dalhousie's Student Services, any assistance, guidance or recreational activities you may desire will be just that much easier to attain. For instance, the Registrar's Office, Dalhousie Student Union, Dalplex and many more Departments and Services will be centrally located for your convenience. So why not stop by, join us for a coffee and doughnut, and browse through Dal's Information Bazaar in the Lobby of the SUB.

MISSA News

The members of MISSA (Malaysian-Indonesian-Singaporean Students' Association) would like to extend a very warm welcome to all of you. Before proceeding further, allow us to introduce MISSA to you.

MISSA is the student organization established in 1978 to promote the cultures of our various countries while meeting the social, cultural, recreational and sporting needs of our members. We also seek to develop a cohesive rapport with other foreign students, the

university community, and the community at large, with the aim of overcoming socio-cultural barriers through fostering better international understandings.

MISSA membership is open to all students attending any institutions of higher learning in Nova Scotia.

Committees for the year 1987-88
Acting President: Dorothy Suen
External Vice-President: Dorothy Suen
Internal Vice-President: Ahmad Zakri Ismail

Treasurer: Ahmad Hizam
Ahmad Ismail
Secretary: Molly Tee
Communication Director: Steven Toong
Sports Director: Allan Cheong
TUNS Representative: Wahab Drahan
St. Mary's Representative: Zaidi Mohammad Aminuddin
International Student Council Representative: Aedah Abu Bakar

Interviews with the dead

(Editor's note: Kuakalol Ararwak is an Aztec priest of the second tier. Educated at the University of Western Ontario during the 60s, he graduated with a B.A. in Comparative Mythology, '64, and with an M.A. in Anthropology from Yucatan College in '66. For the remainder of that turbulent decade, he travelled North, Central and South America through conventional means and somewhat illegal ones, until '75 when he discovered his parapsychological talent of speaking with the dead. Since then, Mr. Ararwak has made several TV appearances, including Oprah Winfrey, and has authored a book on Mayan culture. Mr. Ararwak has kindly submitted articles to the Dispatch in order "to reach his Northern brethren".)

This being my first contact with the kindly settlers of ice-bound America, I bid you welcome. Being a resident in both spirit and soul of the equatorial climes of these two continents, I can understand your lack of knowledge with my point of view and situation. However, I have investigated your history through the marvelous talent Quezelotal has granted me.

One night, after leaving the home of Dr. Timothy Leary, I found myself in a through transmi-

gration with an ancient denizen of your section of the dual continent. I had reached my 'crash pad', as some would put it, and though the walls would not stop becoming strange forms of African animals, I lay down to sleep. It was then that my talent found itself manifested. I fell into a trance, as I lazily popped some Capt. Crunch cereal into my dry mouth, and it was thus that I met Gunnar Skamkelson.

Gunnar was one of the rowers of the Viking craft that landed on our shores those many years ago. I apologize, but I cannot carbonate my visions. The Vikings were busy calling the land Vinland, Markland and several other names that are ancient Icelandic curse-words. Gunnar was a menial labourer on the whole expedition, caught up with the novel idea of joining the navy and seeing the known and unknown world.

Gunnar told me that it was not all that it was cracked up to be. He tired of eating salt seal flipper three days into the expedition and was violently ill for the remainder of the voyage. The other Vikings, who resembled He-Man, hid him in the bilge because of the CBC cameras. In the bilge, which is a nautical term for sewer, his only friends were the cook, who threw

uneaten seal parts to him, and Bjorn the Norwegian rat, who are most of the seal anyway.

In modern capitalistic society, Gunnar would be a civil servant or a McNugget cooker. He was not meant to be a Viking.

But our heroic Gunnar persevered. Eventually the ship reached land. Their port of call was in Newfoundland, Gunnar told me, no matter what the others may say. I can safely affirm such historical fact, as the Indians waiting on shore thought the vessel was carrying unemployment cheques or transfer payments. Of all the Vikings, it was Gunnar who hit it off with the natives from the outset.

The captain of the longboat wanted to subjugate the masses, like Cortez. Gunnar wanted to get on dry land to stop throwing up. The Beothuks took to the young man, who showed them how to make a wicked rice pilaf, and with back issues of the controversial magazine Penthereot captured their imaginations.

The rest of the crew were not as lucky. They entered into squabbles about political systems, economic realities and other such nonsense.

The Beothuks ran the proud Vikings from their shores. Gunnar, however, stayed. In the end, he

formed a touring group that performed plays throughout the island, which despite their foreign instigations maintained a Beothuk content rule. He remained a favourite of all the various chiefs until one of his plays, Reykjavik Vice, incensed the censors, who screamed for more control of the media, and this pioneer of new culture was strangled at the Scandinavian jugular.

Gunnar and his only friend, Bjorn the Norwegian rat, were outcasts. Together they roamed the untamed wilderness of the now Newfoundland and Labrador. They acted out their drama for the fir trees and after a while believed such vegetation gave standing ovations.

A sad day was when Bjorn deserted Gunnar for a common fieldmouse and the dispossessed Viking was left to travel along. A month later, Gunnar was apprehended for fishing without a license, and though he claimed diplomatic immunity, it didn't wash with the Oxford-educated Beothuk attorney-general. Gunnar was sentenced to hang by an unmentionable part of his anatomy til death or soprano singing, and this unfortunate tourist breathed his last while howling out

the song 'How Will I Know' two octaves higher than Whitney Houston ever dreamed of yelling.

Thus ends the tale of Gunnar, whose psychic residue is indelibly etched upon my synapses. Bjorn, the Norwegian rat, grew tired of his common wife and deserted her and their brood of 64 children. He left the isle of unemployment, built a ship, and led a crew of rodents and one moose named Morton back to the island of fire and ice. It is his story that we will investigate next issue as I pursue more the untold history of North America. (Editor's concluding note: Kuakalol Ararwak is meant to be a regular writer for the Dispatch. However, I cannot guarantee such submissions. He is a priest under severe stress due to his 'high' position and the fact that certain law authorities continue to discover disturbing substances in his cave/apartment and on his person. However, I can vouch for his abilities, as he has bent all the cutlery in my apartment and even has certain authorities watching my place night and day. I'm sure you are waiting for the story about Bjorn the Norwegian rat and Morton the Moose as much as I. For sure.)