



Photo: John Davie

yard". "The idea", she adds "is to begin at the grassroots and work out from there to change (society's) structure".

Amani prefers not to make public her last name. The problem of troublemakers is real to the organizers of the Women's Day events. "Unfortunately", Amani explains "I've been bothered before by hecklers calling me up."

The ad-hoc committee however is optimistic about this year's festivities.

First celebrated in 1910, International Women's Day was upheld as a way to commemorate the efforts of women strikers in New York City three years earlier. There, textile workers had led a march in protest of, among other things, the right to vote. The protest resulted in violence and many women were killed.

Every year since then, celebrations on that day have continued.

First on next week's agenda is a Women's Spirituality Gathering. "This will be a non-religious event" says Amani "for women to get together and enjoy some space". She describes it as "just a quiet time for women to contemplate whatever they want in celebration of Women's Day."

A Women and Their Talent Concert is scheduled next. This will be "almost like a variety show", says Marchand, "featuring all women entertainment. The idea is to feature unknown talent."

A Women's March will be held Saturday, March 11. Starting at the North Branch Library, Marchand hopes to see a few hundred women participating. "Everyone's got their own cause and theme", she says. Amani and Marchand believe the March is organized as a way for each woman to represent those concerns.

For the first time, says Marchand, "the march has moved to

the north end, to Gottingen". This is a change the organizers felt was necessary. Always started before in the South end Marchand says the Committee felt it was important to come forward and reach out to all women.

"All the events but one (the Concert) are in the North end this year", adds Amani. This is an effort, she says, to include that area of Halifax and involve as

many women from there as possible.

Following the march will be a Community Fair. This will involve a variety of displays relaying information about Women's Organization services in the city. "A chance", Amani, "for women to network with other women".

A Women's Dance will conclude the celebrations next Saturday night.

## First Aid Courses offered

St. John Ambulance emergency first-aid courses will be held at Dal over the next few months.

The one-day sessions will take place March 9 and 23 from 8:30am to 4:30pm in Room B400 of the Killam Library.

The \$25 charge covers the cost of the workbooks and pamphlets. For more information or to register contact the safety office 424-2495.

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International Women's Day march of 1985. A tradition of celebrating women.

March 8, 1989

# Women's week

by Karin Bergen

"It's a chance for women to get together and show sisterhood" says Jocelyn Marchand, a member of the International Women's Day (IWD) Committee, referring to March 8, Interna-

tional Women's Day.

'International Peace Begins at Home' is this year's theme. "This stems from our belief that when you work for peace", says Amani, also a member of IWD, "you have to start first in your own back-

# WHAM in perspective

by Marc Epprecht

Wife battering, incest, abortion, anorexia and bulimia, mid-wifery, PMS — health concerns are clearly among the most pressing of all so-called women's issues. Dalhousie medical students formed Women, Health and Medicine in 1984 in order to provide an extra-curricular educational program that addresses these concerns and puts them into their broad social context.

WHAM is active in the medical school, has presented briefs to various government commissions and is a co-sponsor of events with other women's groups throughout metro. Its main purpose however is to bring greater awareness to Dalhousie students of women's health matters through a newsletter, lectures and a lunchtime film series. Because women's health cannot be separated from the state of society as a whole, these films are not confined to a narrow definition of physical health. So far this year they have included films on

South Africa, the image of women in advertising, women and poverty, aging and juvenile prostitution. The next film to be shown on Tuesday, March 7 at 12:40 in Theatre A of the Sir Charles Tupper Medical Building, is entitled "Moving On" and is about one community's response to the problem of wife beating.

## "Comedy" protested

HALIFAX (CUP) — Students at Mount St. Vincent University welcomed the comedy team Lambert and James on campus with waving placards.

"Who does our student council think they represent if they are inviting this 'comedy' team to spew out hatred for non-white, non-male people?" asked student Michelle Case, who considers the duo's material offensive.

The women's studies society organized the February 10 protest after a motion to ban Lambert

and James was defeated by one vote at a recent student council meeting.

Rob Holden, council entertainment director, was reluctant to cancel because a contract was signed. The council would lose \$350 if the act was banned.

Said council vice president external Cheryl MacKenzie, "I'd rather spend the \$350, honour their contract and have them not play. They're vulgar and rude." Councilor Naomi Martin added,

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## Explore Women's Studies at Dalhousie



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