Dalhousie taking action on access report?

by Jerry West

Dalhousie is currently address- debt. ing a problem which, according to

last year that Nova Scotia teachers Advisor who, Mr. McKee says, "stream" black students away from will begin working on a resource university preparatory courses centre for black students. prompted many people to think more seriously about racism in the tion to create various courses provincial school system. But de- dealing with black and Micmac spite public outcry the provincial culture was all but ignored by the government flatly refuses to hold President's Office in its response an inquiry.

At Dalhousie a task force was blacks and Micmacs. created to look into access to university for black and Micmac development is the intention to people. After the committee submitted its report last september, President Howard Clark approved, law school's creation last year of in principle, virtually all of the report's suggestions. Now the Admittees will either turn some of fluorial by more inthese good ideas into realities, or dilute them to mediocrity.

in theory with the financial com- physiotherapy and dentistry could mitment necessary to accomplish mean the design will be applicable the sweeping changes recom- as a blueprint for other programs.

mended in the report, it is ever mindful of Dalhousie's \$33 million

Within the next few weeks Eric the provincial government, doesn't McKee, Vice-President of Student Services, will announce the ap-Allegations by black activists pointment of a Black Students'

> On the other hand, the suggesto the report. Instead, the report offered a list of courses mentioning

> Perhaps the most important new increase access to the health professions. Although it follows the the Indigenous Black and Micmac (IBM) program, the health sciall of the health-related disciplines.

The versatility needed to ad-While the Administration agrees minister faculties as diverse as

Because the program is being designed from scratch its organizers can learn from the mistakes of

One of the criticisms most often leveled at the IBM program is that in its haste to start producing graduates, the Law School cobbled together a plan without working out details such as funding. Consequently the students carry the extra weight of not knowing whether they will be able to finish their year.

The Health Sciences Committee's first task will be to decide which approach it will take. Jean Knockwood, Dalhousie's Native Education Counselor, advocates preparing black and First Nations students before they apply to a given faculty, and letting them apply without much special con-

This approach could prepare the student for university, and avoid possible abuse of a quota system by overqualified black and Micmac students. Knockwood believes the preparatory course could also help to decrease friction between "mainstream" students and students who might otherwise



be labeled "special".

The resentment of fellow students who, justifiably or not, believe favors are being handed out can help to increase the pressure on students who may already feel out of place.

doesn't mean they've accepted wile away an hour by attempting you", says Joe Marshall, a student to interpret a two-sentence sugin the IBM program.

sate for some of the inadequacies the agenda for the next meeting.

of Nova Scotia's education system. To succeed, its orchestra of committees and fund-raising bodies will have to be more productive than the committee that met Nov. 5. After noting one-third of their number had not shown up, and the chair had to leave early to pick up "Just because they let you in his kids, the quorum proceeded to gestion from the Task Force's re-Dalhousie is trying to compen- port. The interpretation is still on

Morgentaler debut in Newfoundland

by Laura Currie

ST. JOHN'S (CUP) - "Newfoundland women no longer have to go outside the province to ob-

DSA close to settling

by Allison Johnston

The Dalhousie Staff Association and the Dalhousie Administration met last Wednesday to continue negotiations with provincially appointed concilliator Dannie Hood.

The Administration came forward with a proposal. Bette Yetman of the DSA said that it was interesting and that they would "examine it closely".

There is a scheduled meeting between the two parties on Wednesday, December 5.

Micheal Roughneen of the Dalhousie Administration said "Things have moved since we went into concilliation and we will see on the 5 (of December)".

"We are within sight of a settlement" said Yetman. "If the management would stop dragging it out".

The DSA is organising a rally to pressure the Administration to settle at their next meeting. The rally is proposed for December 4 at lunch time.

tain medical services for an abortion," Henry Morgentaler said Nov. 14 as he officially opened the province's first abortion clinic.

For too many years, women who wanted abortions have had to travel long distances to obtain one, Morgentaler said.

He said that between 200 and 400 Newfoundland women travel to his clinics in other parts of the country every year. Over the past 20 years about 3,000 have obtained services from his clinics, he added.

Only one doctor performs hospital abortions in the province and he will soon be retiring. In the past there were more doctors, but

pressure from what Morgentaler called "anti-choice extremists" has forced many to stop performing the procedure.

The new clinic is staffed by three doctors, one of them from another province.

Morgentaler said there was a general reluctance from doctors to offer their services and he had to persuade the doctors from Newfoundland to work in the clinic.

'I'm making a public appeal to (the) doctors of Newfoundland to be trained so that outsiders don't have to be called in," he said.

On the day of the press conference about 100 anti-abortion pro-

to protest its opening. Meanwhile, a crowd of pro-choice activists showed their support outside at the hotel where Morgentaler was holding the press conference.

Morgentaler defended his clinics, saying they have better safety records and "provide better quality services than hospitals".

"The clinics are 10 times better than any of the Canadian hospitals," he said.

"No general anesthetic is used. Therefore, the risk is less, the procedure takes less time, and the paient's recovery is quicker.'

Morgentaler emphasized the

testers gathered outside the clinic clinic's purpose is not only to perform abortions, but to provide guidance to those women who are undecided as to whether or not they want to have the abortions.

> "The policy of the clinic is that no woman is turned away," he said.

> The clinic will only perform abortions one day a week, but will be open during the week for counselling and making appointments.

> When asked about the possibility of opening another facility in the province Morgentaler said, "I have no intention of opening any other clinic in other parts of the province, but more will be opened throughout Canada."

Black women's history in Nova Scotia

by Lara Morris

Last Wednesday about fifty people attended Sylvia Hamilton's film "Black Mother, Black Daughter", shown as part of Week of Reflection. The film was followed by a discussion about the activities of black women in Nova Scotia and was led by Delvina Bernard, a member of the band Four the Moment and a black ac-

tivist in Nova Scotia.

Black Mother, Black Daughter" contributes to the recovery of black history, an effort important in maintaining the spirit and survival of black women in Nova Scotia.

Black women who have inspired others are profiled in the film. Women such as Rose Fortune and Doreen Weaver provided examples for other women to follow.

Mothers' influence over their black women. daughters, by passing on a sense of identity and self-worth, is also higlighted.

The film discusses the significant influence of the church in the development of the black com-

The Women's Institute of the African United Baptist Church celebrates International Women's

Day and the friendship among

Bernard is glad secular women are now also organizing. "Now we have a critical mass of women who are not necessarily part of the church, but they want to give back to the community," said Bernard. She points to the Black Women's Collective as a new group working on community projects in north end Halifax.