

# V A N I E R

## Background and a Battles '68

by Paul Perlove

For newcomers to Vanier, we will recount briefly last year's historic moments which should give you some insight into it's heritage.

There were two major protagonists, Larry Rapoport and Mel Lubek. Each was trying to do his job - Rapoport as chairman of Vanier Council, and Lubek, though under no official title, as the crafty and battle-wizened leader of SAVE (Students Against Vanier Errors). Lubek's group was formed when Vanier's constitution was brought up for approval. Lubek and his troops were certain Rapoport and his councillors, through calculated negligence, were out to scuttle the Vanier ship.

A vital issue at one point in the year was the proposed Vanier Constitution, a charter which put in print for the first time the functions and responsibilities of everyone within Vanier College.

Lubek was aghast upon surveying the constitution. Seeking to get Vanier students to reject the constitution during a plebiscite, Lubek in a burst of energy formed SAVE.

During the vote on the constitution, members of SAVE scurried around in the Vanier Common room advising voters to reject the constitution. Rapoport was not outstandingly happy over this procedure.

The constitution narrowly passed and the battle between Lubek and Rapoport was presumed temporarily over. Next week it was on again as Excalibur's headlines announced 'Debating President forced out by Rapoport faction'. It was headline material only because Lubek was the deposed Debating president. Furthermore, the story made wholesome, interesting reading with such sharp invective as 'personal vendetta' and 'political crucifixion' hurled about by Lubek, the outgoing leader.

Council will not be the same this year. Rapoport is now vice-president of the YSC, having decided not to run for re-election on the Vanier Council. Lubek, whose memorable moments found him leading bayonette charges against Vanier Council, decided to abandon his bunker and sign on with that very same Vanier Council.

The current council's term of office will expire in January.

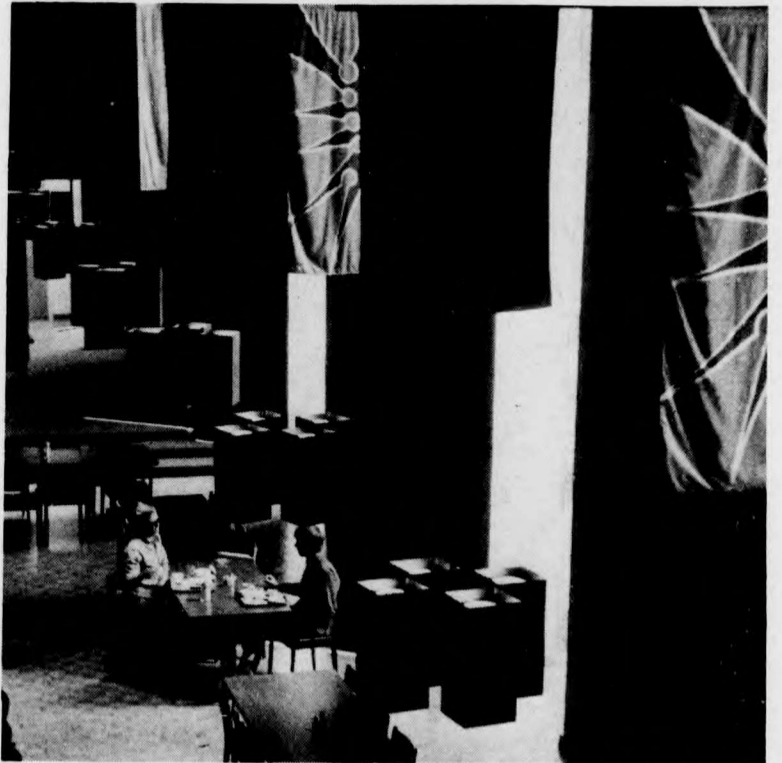
Richard Sand, a councillor for the past two years, is the present chairman. Paul Stott is the only other repeater from last year. Other members of Vanier Council are Ken Craigie, Rod MacDonald, Les Shugar, Jeff Solway, and Judi Thompson.

Members of the faculty sitting on council are Michael Boyer, Michael Collie, Joan Stewart and Thelma McCormack.

The Vanier Council is an autonomous body within York. The Master of the college, Dr. Fowle, along with the Council draw up a budget in which funds allotted to Vanier College are administered and distributed for the most part by the Vanier Council. Salaries of various people under the employ of Vanier, financing of college clubs, athletics, dances, dinners and debates are all handled by Vanier Council.



Students (who could be from any college) cram for a test in the sunshine of my love . . . no, no, I mean, in the sunshine of the Vanier quad.



Anyone is free to use the dining room for a quiet chat.

## You can meditate full time in Vanier's common room

by Paul Perlove

The Vanier common room is one of those places where a fellow can forget about such trivialities as grades, essays, and debtor's prison. Its plush red carpet, and soft, easy couches usually present a contrast to the freshman who has escaped from the relative squalor of a local high school.

It seemed last year that hundreds of students abandoned the dull routine of lectures and study for the infinitely more rewarding position of 'meditator - full-time'. Sprawled out full length on the carpet or draped over a deep-cushioned chair, these stoics went about their job of pondering the course of the universe.

The common room is not just a place for relaxation and socializing. It serves as an area where intellectual discussion can be carried out in small, intimate groups, or for the benefit of an audience. Last year Black Power advocate and Socialist Workers Party candidate for the Vice-Presidency in the U.S., Paul Boutelle, addressed a packed common room on racial inequality, the Viet Nam war and the merits of Black Power.

The common room housed numerous debates (some faculty-student) giving students an opportunity to hear intelligent arguments about the U.S. position in Viet Nam, Canada's status as an indirect aid to American participation in the war, and the role of the student in the government of a university.

York's first press conference took place in the Social and Debates room, a segment of the Vanier common room. Larry Rapoport, chairman of Council, convened the conference to give the Vanier Council the opportunity to answer the charge of Dave Warga, then managing editor of Excalibur, that the council was mismanaging student funds. Warga failed to turn the conference into the Nuremberg trials, and it was the general consensus that the council was acquitted.



Vanier residence (upper background) and Vanier classrooms (lower foreground) as seen from the east. Vanier has one of the two sky-scraper residences on this campus.

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