

# UNIVERSITY NEWSBEAT

Prepared and paid for by the Communications Department, S802 Ross, 667-3441

## Vanier Students Choose Options

# STUDENT SELF-HELP HELPS COMMUNITY

Last spring a small group of undergraduate students entered the Canada Manpower Centre on campus. What distinguished them from the others waiting in line for jobs was the \$35,000 they had in the bank, and their purpose for coming: they needed workers, not work.

This group, called Options, began almost a year ago, following Jean Vanier's visit to the College carrying his name, and his talk on helping the mentally handicapped. Since that time the students have completed a number of necessary research projects; published a comprehensive report of their findings; laid the groundwork for upper year college seminars in Environmental Issues, Immigrants and Refugees, and Problems of the Handicapped; and begun to establish a North York volunteer bureau to help those living in the Jane-Finch corridor.

While the group has grown to include students from other York colleges and even from off campus, Options' starting place was Vanier College, known for its active concern for social, religious, and political issues. College master Michael Creal believes it the function of the colleges to "give people some sense that they have the power to do things. The really encouraging part about the university," he says, "is when students take

initiative and responsibility, and in return are given support and a good environment in which to work." He is extremely pleased with the work the Options students have been able to perform and the service they have given the community.

Their capital, the \$35,000, came from the federal Ministry of Health and Welfare and from the Youth Job Care Program in response to specific research proposals the group had worked out with community agencies such as the Canadian Paraplegic Association, The Ontario Federation of Cerebral Palsied, The Ontario Crippled Children's Centre, and the Multiple Sclerosis Society. Shawn Brayman, Options program leader, stated "there was obviously no lack of need: most organizations jumped in with eight to ten ideas of what needed to be done, but which they had neither the funds nor the manpower to do themselves."

Their many projects included studies of technical and home made innovations for the physically disabled and the manufacture of low cost substitutes; job opportunities for the physically disabled; relief for families with a seriously disabled child; and possible small businesses and self-motivation in the Participation House, a permanent resi-

dence for the severely disabled.

Their "Program Development For Adolescents with a Multiple Sclerotic Parent" will soon receive international recognition. Through personal interviews with the patients and their spouses, and through group interviews with the teenage children of these patients, the Options group researched how the parents and children perceived the illness and how they interacted around it. There had

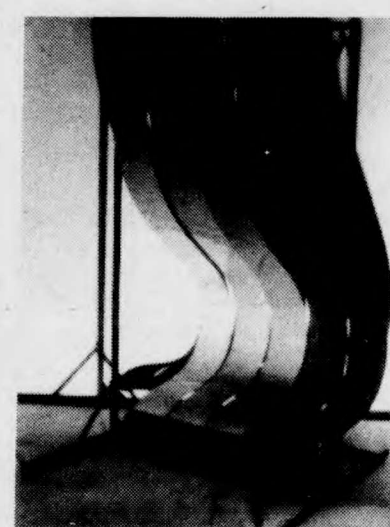
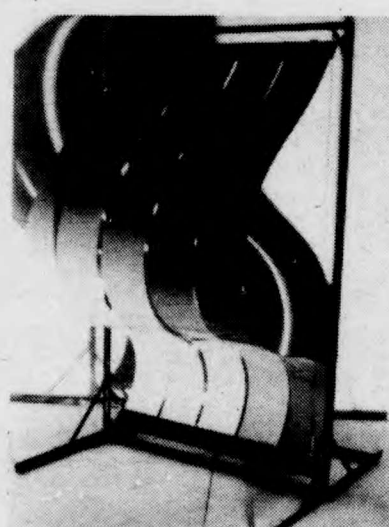
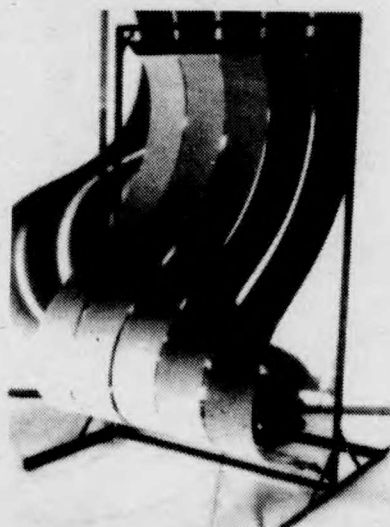
been some work done previously on adult support groups, Brayman said, but no information on the children, what they needed, and what programs could be developed to handle these needs. This pioneering work in the field will be presented at an international conference in Vienna by the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Shawn Brayman reports that he and the 15 other students completed their seven projects over

14 weeks during the summer, and that the final report will soon be back from the printers. He says he hopes that Options' successes will encourage other students to get involved.

The current concern is the North York Volunteer Bureau. Interested faculty, students, and staff should contact the Options office in Room 202B Vanier College weekdays between 1-4 p.m. (call 667-3255).

## AGYU Presents Movement Sculpture



Tandy's "Fall" of 1974 in various movement phases

The Electrical Kinetic Forms of sculptor Craig Tandy can be seen at the Art Gallery of York University, N145 Ross, until November 14. These pieces are simple, elegant, and direct statements

concerning the nature of movement.

In the exhibition brochure Ihor Holubizky states: "Tandy's interest is in the nature and order of things; a systematic and analytical examination of simple

structures and forms, re-occurring in a variety of states and situations . . . It requires an orderly work progression and craftsmanship which is carried through with a feeling of spontaneity and wit."

## OVER 740 TO GRADUATE

More than 740 students from eight different Faculties are expected to graduate at the Fall convocation ceremony being held Thursday, November 1, at 8:00 p.m. in the main gymnasium of the Tait McKenzie Building. Delivering the convocation address will be honorary graduand Helen Allen, who will receive the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa.

A long-time journalist and graduate of the University of

Toronto, Miss Allen is the originator of "Today's Child", a newspaper feature which has led to the adoption of more than 10,000 Ontario children. Most of these children were of mixed race, or with physical disabilities, or of ages not readily adoptable.

Participating in the Fall Convocation are the Faculties of Arts, Administrative Studies, Education, Fine Arts, Graduate Studies, Law, Science, and Glendon College.

## Footnotes

Darwin's theory of evolution by natural selection will provide the framework for "The Evolution of Life", the second annual science symposium taking place in Vanier College Dining Hall on Thursday evening, October 25 and in Burton Auditorium throughout Friday, October 26. This conference, which is free and open to the public, will review current theories of the origin and evolution of living organisms from scientific, philosophical and humanistic viewpoints. For further information call 667-2202/4.

Wednesday, October 31, is the last day to pay your fees in order to register for the 1979/80 Fall/Winter Session. Students will not be allowed to register after this date except on special compassionate grounds or in the case of an unjustifiable delay on the part of some York faculty or administrative office. A written petition and supporting docu-

mentary evidence will be required, and the Registrar's decision will be final.

If you have financial problems or question which prevent you from registering, you may seek counselling at the Office of Student Awards, Room 110A, Steacie Science Building, 667-2542/3263.

If you plan to take only Winter half courses, the deadline for fee payment is January 31, 1980.

York dance graduates Paula Ravitz and Denise Fujiwara present new works at 15 Dance Lab on November 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10 at 8:30 p.m. Their company, the Toronto Independent Dance Enterprise, was formed in 1977 to create a collaboration between independent dance & music artists. Its choreography juxtaposes the strong physicality of technical dancing with gestures taken from everyday life to create arresting collages of movement. Call 869-1589 for further information.

## STONG CONFERENCE PROBES CULTURAL PLURALISM

Are we Canadians looking for a homogeneous or pluralistic society? This question is among the main issues destined for debate in "Cultural Pluralism and the Canadian Unity," a conference coming to the Stong College Junior Common Room October 26 and 27.

Sponsored jointly by Stong College and the Ontario Advisory Council on Multiculturalism, this conference features York academics and representatives from ethnocultural groups in and around Toronto presenting papers in the fields of Canadian history, constitutional matters, and ethnocultural relations.

York speakers are president H. Ian Macdonald; Hédi Bouraoui, professor of French Studies, master of Stong College, and organizer of the conference; associate professor of sociology James Porter; associate professor of political science Stanislav Kirschbaum; and OISE graduate student T. Kott, leader of a Stong tutorial in Multiculturalism. Outside speakers include G. Korey, former chairman of the Ontario Advisory Council on Multiculturalism; J. Lombardi, president of the multilingual CHIN radio station; W. Gertler, president of the Canadian Polish Congress; and A. Chumak, Toronto Board of Education trustee for Ward 1.

Prof. Bouraoui related the origins of the conference. After a meeting last year at Stong of the Ontario Advisory Council on Multiculturalism, he felt the

broader theoretical issues should be identified, presented, and opened up for debate. He developed this conference specifically "to create a bridge between the community at large in the Toronto-Hamilton area and the faculty and students of both York and the University of Toronto," and regards it as part of Stong College's contribution to resolving the crisis of Canadian unity.

Prof. Bouraoui prefers the term transculturalism to multiculturalism because "trans" implies bridging, whereas "multiculturalism seems to have acquired, at least in Canada, a connotation of minority groups and ethnicity, permitting a false dichotomy of us and them — the majority culture and new immigrant groups. In fact, we are all

ethnics — the Anglo-Scottish-Irish majority, as well as the newer waves of immigrants."

He is suggesting that "we can see a spectrum with the mosaic at one end and the melting pot at the other. At the mosaic extreme, national origins are respected to such an extent that they diminish any sense of Canadian identity. At the melting pot extreme, all traditions are lost in the process of assimilation. Surely we can strike a balance between the two, so that the individual can see himself as a Canadian (or American) first without surrendering to amnesia concerning his origins."

For further information concerning speakers, topics, and times, contact Olga Cirak at 667-3061. All meetings are free and open to the public.

## 2nd Annual Science Olympics

This Saturday, October 27, York's Faculty of Science and the Science Students Association host the second annual Science Olympics. Over 50 high school teams — twice as many as last year — will come from as far away as Timmins and Ottawa to compete against each other and the clock in eight challenging science-related events.

Keith Aldridge, Olympics coordinator and associate professor of earth science, says students this year will be able to make greater use of their knowledge of physics, chemistry, biology, and computer science, as a number of events have been changed to

strengthen their basis in classical mechanics and make the competition more quantitative.

In the new events competitors must program an electronic turtle through a maze, design a super long-flying paper glider, fire a projectile from a spring-controlled launcher, and run through a kind of relay race that poses biological matching problems and asks for graphic illustrations.

The action begins at 8:45 a.m. in Curtis Lecture Hall L with the traditional lighting of the Science Olympic flame. For further information contact Prof. Aldridge at 667-2251.