

**On with the show**

# Theatre will bring new life to Complex I

By ANNA VAITIEKUNAS  
When renovations are completed next week, McLaughlin college dining hall will become a semi-permanent theatre with York's graduate theatre students as its main occupants.

The decision to convert the dining hall into a theatre was made three years ago to provide a home for York's young graduate theatre programme, currently un-

der the direction of John Juliani. When Juliani agreed to instruct the graduate students, it was on the condition that performance space be provided by September, 1975. At the time, no new space could be provided for the theatre department, so the faculty of Fine Arts had to consider the areas available on campus.

"One of the college dining halls looked like the logical solution

because word had it that they were not being used to full capacity", explained Juliani.

The decision to build the performance centre in McLaughlin was made by the faculty of Fine Arts in collaboration with the McLaughlin student council three years ago.

McLaughlin dining hall was chosen ahead of other areas because it has the highest ceilings and an absence of low-hanging

light fixtures and tapestries.

The graduate programme, now entering its second year, operated in Bethune college until last summer.

The McLaughlin renovations started two weeks ago when physical plant staff began to install semi-permanent skylights and a storage room for props and other equipment.

Physical Plant manager Doug Armour assured Excalibur that

"the theatre will not cause any re-routing of student traffic through the college.

"The exits of the dining hall and the balcony will remain as passageways," he said.

The renovations will cost the faculty and physical plant approximately \$45,000. Armour reported last Monday that renovations so far have cost physical plant \$20,000 instead of the targeted \$25,000.

McLaughlin college will have access to the converted dining hall one week every month. During the time Rill Caterers operate out of the Winters and McLaughlin server, McLaughlin students will be required to eat in the Winters dining area. McLaughlin college dinners and other functions will be held in Winters College.

McLaughlin master George Tatham said that "Winters College has been very cooperative with us in relocating our college dinners."

However, Tatham hopes that the theatre will be "temporary" so that students will have full access to the college.

Tatham said students greeted the theatre with surprise. But, since there is no alternative space for the theatre, students have accepted the situation.

Tatham is optimistic about the theatre because he feels that it will be a valuable contribution to York university.

"This difficulty is an opportunity to show the university community that problems can be worked out with the co-operation of the different parties."

Juliani believes that the performance centre will help to draw student activity from Central Square and bring more attention to Complex I.

"We want to spread our presence on campus," he said.

Chris Gurney, administrative director for the faculty of Fine Arts calls the centre "an exciting and beneficial opportunity for Complex I."

According to Gurney, the faculty of Fine Arts is hoping to build a permanent performance centre at York. But, until the university is in better financial shape, that project will remain "up in the air".

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## Don't steal this headline

NEW YORK (CUP) — People across the country are apparently taking Abbie Hoffman's advice and ripping off copies of his book, entitled Steal This Book.

The Erie Metropolitan Library in New York reported that it has discovered all three copies of the Yippie leader's book missing.

Librarian Ronaleen Lee said that an audit of the 700 U.S. libraries affiliated with the Library of Congress catalogue system revealed that only 15 of them still had copies of the book.

"Very few of the bookstores we've contacted even bother to order it anymore," said Lee. "They just can't keep it on the shelves."

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## Announcement

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