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NOTE: Niobe rhymes with Buy-O-me

Laurier's new Niobe lounge
will ban smoking and alcohol

The newest lounge for students at Wilfrid Laurier University, in the planning stage for months, is now open. Named the H.M.C.S. Niobe, the lounge serves only soft drinks and smoking is banned.

A project of the student government at Laurier, the lounge was named after a Canadian warship of the same name that was commissioned by Sir Wilfrid Laurier. The ship became a training vessel and was known as "the traveller's rest," which will be an alternate name for the lounge.

The idea for an alternate lounge originated with Vicki Krotz, a director of BACCHUS, a student organization that works to promote moderation and the provision of attractive soft drinks wherever alcohol is served on campus.

Laurier is the founding university in Canada and national headquarters for BACCHUS, which stresses that fun events need not be drinking events. It also sponsors the I'm Driving Club, which sees that free soft drinks are supplied to designated drivers at campus events. The driver then takes all members of his group home.

The new Niobe lounge, in bright colors of red, white and blue, is in the student building, just across the hall from Wilf's, a licenced facility.