

LETTERS

cont'd from page four

way one earns this trust is by initiating progressive reform-minded changes, not pie in the sky solutions. Change must be done over time so that all are comfortable with it. The last 2½ years have seen changes brought about by an agenda that has served the needs of Ontarians.

Look at the legislative agenda. Over 50 government bills have been introduced since September 10. I hardly call that arrogance. Programs have been initiated in various areas such as a 97.5 million dollar new farmers program, and improvements in crop insurance. Conflict of interest legislation has been introduced and a new Freedom of Information Program was put in effect at the beginning of the year. Other examples of the government's commitment include the Environment Minister's support of recycling programs and the Health Minister's grants in hospital operations that have gone up 6.9% for 1988-89. Your local MPP can give you more information on these and other government achievements. They are all just too numerous to mention now.

But, to specifically deal now with education, initiatives from The Ministry of Colleges and Universities include the establishment of six Centres of Excellence across Ontario which will develop material, train teachers and simulate research on entrepreneurship. In fact, York was granted a Centre. Universities were informed that their operating grants would increase by 6.75% for a total of 1.5 billion dollars for 1988-89, an enormous improvement from the decadence and neglect under the Tories. Grants to school boards have also increased by 6.8% which amounts to an increase of 245.8 million dollars over 1987. Programs such as the Student Retention and Transition Pilot Program to deal with the drop-out rate have also been initiated.

From pay equity to day care the government has been diligently working to tackle the needs of all Ontarians. Not everything can be done at once. We elected a progressive open-minded government, not a revolutionary one. Goals have been set to direct progress and change into the 21st century. This is precisely the type of commitment that the Liberal government has.

The substance is clearly there. Unfortunately you decided that issues are not important and style is which completely misses the point. If you are better prepared to deal with facts instead of personality then you'll present a much more balanced view of what has been done. The tone of the editorial shows that your own arrogance got in the way.

Tony Genco

No sympathy for In4mation mag

Editor:

So the folks at In4mation feel sorry for themselves since Excalibur is not giving them the recognition they think they deserve. I find it hard to find any sympathy for them; I have not seen this single worthy issue of

their magazine, but if their skill with language exhibited in their letter is representative, I shudder.

Some words in English—monopoly, for example—cannot be qualified. There are no degrees in a monopoly ('The exclusive control of a commodity, service, or means of production in a particular market, with the resulting power to fix prices and eliminate competition.'—Funk & Wagnall's Standard College Dictionary). There was therefore no need to complain that other literary anthologies think that they have the 'whole monopoly' of campus literature, since a monopoly is, by definition, whole. Before the editors go running off at the mouth (or pen), they should learn to use the English language appropriately. In another skill such imprecision would be considered dangerous. A surgeon couldn't afford to slip.

I was also perplexed by their reference to 'pre-Madonnas and literati.' Literati I understood, but what do 14-year-old Madonna 'wannas' have to do with literary achievement, or was it people living before the time of Mary, mother of Jesus? Having said it aloud a few times, I wonder if they didn't mean *prima donnas*—a thoroughly different concept, I assure you. There is more to be said for clarity and comprehension than Sara(h) Morgan and R. Cameron Neill will ever understand.

—Sarah Cannell

Don't blame OFS for apathy

TO THE EDITOR:

Last Thursday (March 10), the Ontario Federation of Students held an important rally at Queen's Park. This was an annual event organized by OFS to protest the provincial government's underfunding of Ontario's post-secondary institutions. Of the estimated 2-5,000 students who took part in the event, York only managed to send 10! WHY? According to Tammy Hasselfeldt, the CYSF external affairs director, OFS was responsible for York's poor turnout. Not only is this explanation not acceptable, it is not the truth. Miss Hasselfeldt has to bear the full responsibility for York's poor effort. SHE was in charge of organizing York's participation. Yet she failed to do even the minimum. For example, she could have done a much better job in organizing the advertising at York. Though she already had the posters two weeks before the day of the event, she chose to wait until four days before the event before putting up any of the posters. Secondly, no notice or advertisement was taken out in Excalibur. Thirdly, the week-long events that OFS had planned for Universities to participate in (such as the room jamming contest) never occurred.

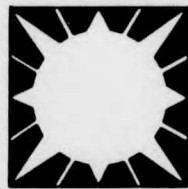
Maybe if we try to work with OFS, York Students would begin to get their money's worth instead of always being negative towards an organization that even Student Government at York doesn't even put an effort to participate in!

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ATTENTION ALL CANDIDATES RUNNING IN THE MARCH 30th ELECTION:

Excalibur will publish a 250 word description of your platform. All submissions must be double space and handed into the editor by March 21st (Monday) at noon. Late submissions will not be accepted. Platforms exceeding the required length will be edited without consultation. If you have any questions, please come by our office at Room 111 Central Square, or call 736-5239.

ALL PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES MUST BE ADVISED THAT:

Excalibur will be conducting its interviews with CYSF presidential candidates on Friday March 18th in the afternoon. After declaring your candidacy, please drop by our offices, so a time can be booked for your interview, or call us at 736-5239.