

# S P O R T S

## Intramurals raise several funding questions

By JAMES HOGGETT

We have all heard the constant complaining of underfunding by varsity teams, yet we have tended to overlook the needs of our inter-collegiate athletic programme which is equally as important to many York students.

The intramural programs at York involve more than 4,000 participants, making it the largest extra-curricular activity on campus. Yet it is one of the poorest funded at York.

The situation was considered so poor that on March 18 more than 200 intramural participants held a "Hands Around Tait" demonstration to protest an increase in entry fees by the York Administration.

According to Steve Manweiler, president of Inter-College Athletic Council, York does have the money to spend on intramurals. \$1.66 million is allotted to Varsity Athletics and Recreation every year. Manweiler suspects that some of that money is going towards academics as is money from other ancillary activities.

Ancillary fees are collected by the University to fund non-academic student-oriented programmes. Each student pays \$7.20 per credit (\$216 for five full courses), creating a pool of funds of approximately \$5.7 million. Of this, \$1.2 million goes to student government, \$700,000 to the Writing Workshop, \$1.2 million to Health and Counselling, \$1.66 million to Varsity Athletics and Recreation, and \$900,000 to other student programmes such as Radio York and *Excalibur*.

Out of the \$1.66 million that goes to Varsity Athletics and Recreation, only \$33,000 goes to Recreation York, of which about \$10,000 is for subsidizing intramurals. The remaining \$23,000 goes to salaries (\$19,000) and to Recreation York's other programmes, such as swimming, pick-up hockey or instructional classes.

Manweiler is concerned about this

lack of funds for intramurals. "We have a programme that to run properly costs about \$60,000 and we're only funded a sixth of that," Manweiler said. He is questioning why only two percent of the Athletics budget goes to intramurals when they involve more than 4,000 students annually.

Manweiler also cannot understand why intramural underfunding does not plague other universities that direct similar amounts to athletics. "You'll find that our \$63 per student levy for Athletics and Recreation is just as equitable as other universities. But they don't run into the problems we do."

Manweiler finds it hard to believe that \$950,500 is needed for salaries. "I know there are a lot of coaches involved and they all have to be paid but almost one million dollars?" Manweiler said.

"Varsity coaches are the only people who should be paid out of this (\$950,500 sum). There should be no funds allocated to academics. I have a strong suspicion that it in fact is because there is no way that this money in salaries should be coming out of student fees."

Complicating Manweiler's task in finding out whether these salaries are legitimate is the fact that York is the only University that does not document the breakdown of its fees.

"York is alone in its approach," Provost Tom Meininger said. "This University has always preferred to see programmes and costs linked together. This allows students to claim more coverage on OSAP (Ontario Student Assistance Programme) and favours older adult students when claiming income tax," Meininger added.

However, the Ministry of Colleges and Universities has told York that it has to start breaking down their students fees, so that it can be accountable.

So, for the first time York students



PHOTO FROM ICAC

**WE WON'T TAKE IT SITTING DOWN!** York intramural participants held a "Hands Around Tait" to protest an increase in entry fees by the administration.

will have access to information regarding what portion of their fees goes toward Athletics and Recreation. These are the only programmes that are offered by the Physical Education department that are non-academic and student oriented.

"This is just one element of a much larger fight going on," Manweiler said. "How will the Administration account for past and present student programmes and activity

fees?"

The new Ministry regulations on ancillary fees also mean that the Writing Workshop is now considered an academic concern, and cannot come from the \$216 students pay annually. That will free up about \$700,000 in the funding pool next year. Manweiler believes some of that money should go to the intramural programme. "We want the information but they won't give it

out," Manweiler added.

Yesterday, a meeting was held to discuss the issues facing Athletics and Recreation. Attending the meeting were: Provost Tom Meininger; the Chairman and Vice Chairman of Athletics, Dr. Norman Gledhill; Dr. Roger Seaman, Coordinator; Dr. Joseph Levy; and the Inter-College Athletic council representatives. The results of this meeting were not available at press time.

Each student pays \$7.20/credit (\$216.00/5 Courses) for "*STUDENT ANCILLARY FEES*". These fees are to fund non-academic, student-oriented programs.

These fees create a pool of funds approximating \$5.7 Million. They are allocated like such:

Student Government	\$1.2 Million
Writing Workshop	\$0.7 Million
Health and Counselling	\$1.2 Million
Athletics and Recreation	\$1.66 Million
Other Student Programs (Radio York, Excal., etc.)	\$0.9 Million

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Contact the Registration Office, Suite C130 West Office Building, telephone 736-5155.

Office of the Registrar  
April 9, 1987