

EDITORIAL It's time we demanded first class sports and entertainment

It happened again. The muchtouted York Yeomen basketball team travelled to the Canadian championships and lost in the first round.

Could it be that the Yeomen are using the National Championships as vacations? Are they leaving their competitive fire on their home courts? The Yeomen, as usual, have compiled an outstanding record in their Ontario Divisions over the last few years, but the record means nothing when it all comes down to one big playoff game.

Are the players that we send illprepared for the National Championships? While we've done well in Ontario, our National record pales in comparison to Victoria University.

Victoria has won Canadian basketball championships for three consecutive years. They are the model for Canadian university basketball teams. They are financially supported by the provincial government, and can therefore afford to offer \$1,000 scholarships to members of their teams.

Beside financial support, members of a Victoria team enjoy the knowledge that their school is a winning one. At this year's national competition, Victoria sent five nationallyranked teams, and came back with five winners. In contrast, York sent eight and returned with one men's gymnastics winner.

Victoria's teams don't have much on their York counterparts. We've got the coaching and the players, but we're missing the essential element. We need to convey to our athletes that we miss having winning teams and feel they may be falling into a Cinderella syndrome that may be hard to shake later; dressed in glass slippers, we consistently straggle home in our sweat socks.

The athletic departments of Nobby Wirkowski and Mary Lyons seem to personify an attitude that winning is not an essential commodity. Perhaps they feel that an Ontario Championship is enough.



MEN-I THINK I'VE FOUND

The last-minute losing syndrome will continue until both York Physical Education programs work together to solve this dilemma. In a school such as Victoria, the men's and women's athletic chairpeople work together as one, and their competitive spirit and philosophy is picked up by the coaches, who pass it along to the players. The net result is a winning tradition — something we at York have as yet been unable to achieve.

This week's David Steinberg television concert in Burton

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Auditorium appeared to be a great success and the York Student Fund must be commended for its handling of ticket promotion and sales on such short notice.

Unfortunately, the same cannot be said of the University. The administration basically gave away thousands of potential York Fund dollars because the Steinberg people were not charged rent for their use of Burton. Although we don't expect the University to charge production companies rents equivalent to Massey Hall, we do expect some fair renumeration. The University is dealing with a profit-making organization (Global) and they must deal with them in a business-like manner.

Global was recording both for themselves and American Pay TV. This is a multi-million dollar business and there is no reason that York shouldn't cash in on some of the entertainment dollars. After all, The York Fund was created to raise money.

Pay TV is coming to Canada and this is an opportunity for York to open Burton year 'round for some classy entertainment, while allowing private industry to provide the funding.

The Board of Governors should consider appointing a full-time qualified manager for the purpose of coordinating Burton's bookings with outside agencies such as Canadian and American Pay TV.

If York's athletic department and those responsible for promoting Burton bookings would examine themselves with an eye to becoming 'winners', we would see an improvement in both our teams and in Burton entertainment.

