

THE TRUE WINNER

by Bob Dovichak
Guest Editorial

Society applauds the winner. An ovation is given for the victorious; never has a generation been more competitive than we are now. From childhood today's youth are told to work hard in order to be better than the next guy. School sports stress victory through drill and practice; college students are prompted to study with, "Best grades get the best jobs," and those already employed soon learn, "Work harder and success will be yours."

Is there anything wrong with this? No. In fact it is the principle upon which this country has become great. Equal opportunity and advancement limited only by the extend of one's own abilities are the trademarks of our society; our economic and social survival depend on this competitive spirit.

But, like any good thing, there is often overemphasized. Too often all the emphasis is on winning, while losing is ignored on the pretense that if you pretend it doesn't exist it will go away. But it won't.

For every winner there is a loser who may shrug off his loss and say, "The test doesn't count much anyway," or "Let her go with him: she's not so great." But what does he achieve by this self-deception? Not one thing - but the opportunity is there! If he realized that 50% of the time someone has to lose then he might ask himself, "If I get something out of each loss, then I will be twice as knowledgeable as I am now." With this in mind he might reconsider his previous attitude and say, "Well, I've learned that I can't bluff my way through his tests," or, "I really enjoyed

going out with her, and I hope she's as good for him as she was for me."

It is of little consequence what actually happens to a person. What is important is how he reacts to it. Difficulties and setbacks can serve to enrich a man; storms only root the oak deeper in the ground. The real question is, "Is he man enough to ride out the storm?"

Dear Editor:

Our Campus is steadily reaching the 500 student mark. With this population increase, the size and contents of our school store should increase also. More works, a larger variety (not just required books), and supplies should be included.

I strongly believe that this should be emphasized in the immediate future.

-Ronald Batchelor

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