

ATHLETES DEFECT

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

As the cold winds of Fall blow snow on the grounds of U.P.E.I., the avid basketball fan dons his or her rubber boots and heads for the Alumni gym. Fans this year knew Sumner was gone long before the winds of fall came. Along with Sumner went MacIssac, Mower, DePinto and probably the Pink Panther.

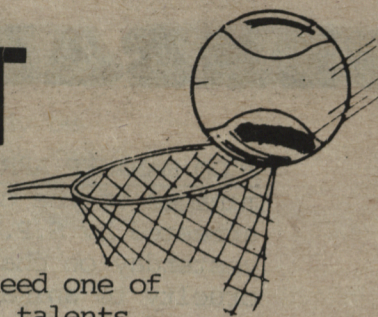
The issue at hand is why did Chris Sumner flee to Acadia? There are a number of suggestions as to the reasons he and the others left. These could be money, lack of facilities, academic standing, desire to be on a winner, following Coach Nutbrown or maybe they just took a wrong turn at Aulac, N.B.

Sumner was indeed one of the best basketball talents at U.P.E.I. in recent years and his departure is an injustice to U.P.E.I. fans. The athletic department cannot be blamed for the lack of funds to keep coaches and players at this institution. If the reason Sumner and others left is the money being offered by other universities then the AUAA and CIAU should launch an investigation into illegal funding of athletes!

Some will suggest that Sumner followed Nutbrown's departure and they both drove away in new Pontiac Acadian's. Most U.P.E.I. fans are still waiting on an explanation of

the constant departure of the best athletes after one year at U.P.E.I. How can it be explained that the average varsity players are not also departing? One solution to this problem would be better support of U.P.E.I. athletics by Alumni, the City of Charlottetown Business District and even the support of P.E.I. itself. A new sports complex is still light years away but its presence would greatly encourage athletes to come and stay at U.P.E.I.

The Athletic department should push for a two year non-participation clause for transferring students. The athletic department itself could use a facelifting in terms of staff and coaching methods which could greatly improve our standing in the leagues. An infusion of new blood mixed with the experience of seasoned staff would do much to heighten the incentive of our teams and make for better sports both for players and spectators.



THE SPA

West Royalty Fitness Centre Ltd.

Special Student Membership
Now Available.
Sept. 6 - April 15.

Fitness Club \$140.00
Racquet Club \$180.00

- indoor racquet sport courts
- indoor running track
- indoor swimming pool
- fitness diagnostic centre
- comprehensive exercise rooms
- locker rooms with saunas, sun rooms and whirlpools
- babysitting services
- Pro Shop
- the 'Broken Racquet' Lounge

For further information
call 566-1400

Located in the Charlottetown Mall.