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Letter of the day: One winner? It doesn't have to be that way

"American Idol" tipped its hand on May 17 (A2). The three semi-finalists split the vote so closely, it exposed the whole notion of a single winner as shameful.

Why the obsession with "winners" rather than many outstanding talents each worthy of recognition? The "winner-take-all" perspective permeates our cultural entertainment, from "Survivor" to athletic championships and TV game shows. The "Idol" results might remind us that humans generate and glorify all this competition. Nature did not force Social Darwinism upon us.

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