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*The Cadre* is the official newspaper of the UPEI Student Union. 2,000 copies of *The Cadre* are printed 10 times per semester. There are meetings open to anyone Mondays at 4:15 in room 213 in the W.A. Murphy Student Centre. The deadline for submissions is Thursday at midnight. The opinions expressed within *The Cadre* do not necessarily represent the views of UPEI or the UPEI Student Union Inc.

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**Letters to the editor:**

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**Editorial 3: Where'd the power go?**

I woke up a few mornings ago, and I walked to the downstairs of my house. Something in my head made me start singing. Singing a song that I hadn't sung in months. A roommate of mine yelled from the upstairs: "Man, that's been in my head all morning."

*Island Petroleum  
 People that you can depend on,  
 Right here on The Island,  
 Great service, Great people!*

*Let it rain, let it snow,  
 The temperature will fall below,  
 You'll be inside cozy warm,  
 Thanks to Island Petroleum.*

Can any commercial better herald in the start to winter? I don't think so. Soon we'll have to turn the heat on. Soon a 10 minute stroll to UPEI will turn into a half hour arctic journey. Soon UPEI students will be tuned to the radio every morning hoping that school will be cancelled. And if it's not cancelled, then soon we'll be in class in one of the worst blizzards ever, and word will come that the campus is closing, and that the administration doesn't give a fuck where you go; just get the hell off campus and onto the roads.

As I write this there is a pretty big storm bearing down on the Maritimes. Something big... I believe the National Council for Big Weather has named it "Downpour Dougy." Very exciting times. Downtown Halifax has just been evacuated. The boats in Peake's Quay are all double-tied and bunched in together like a bunch of sardines. Downpour Dougy is set to hit PEI at 3am. That's only a few hours from when I write this.

The National Council for Big Weather is predicting that the power will be knocked out at some time after that.

No power at 3am on a Monday. That could spell disaster for The Cadre. For the past few issues I've been here until 7am, working away and trying to make The Cadre as close

to perfect as possible. Which brings me to my first tangent:

I was leaving a class when a friend (whose name rhymes with Moey Squeal) came up behind me a congratulated me on how well The Cadre looked. Through a series of hand gestures and upward motions, he told me that unlike years before, The Cadre started out strong. The paper looked good, lots of content, no glaring errors in spelling, grammar, or layout. We had close to a full staff. The Editor-in-Chief was dashing good looking.

But we started out strong, and I'd like to state that we are all students here, we get paid almost nothing, and sometimes we are going to have to rush getting the paper done. We may not have the time to go over every article with a fine toothed comb. Sometimes, just sometimes, there is a Downpour Dougy barreling down on us, with a double barrelled weather gun. Loaded with rain and wind.

We're scared.

The storm will hit at 3am. SU Prez Brandon has already asked me to walk him home at that time. He thinks it would be "crazy." I think he's scared, well, I'd have to describe him more as excited. But I had to decline... I have to stay here all night, and then call our printer at 7:30am to make sure that everything on the presses went all right. I'll have to walk Brandon home some other time, or maybe I can walk him to school some day. For the record, Brandon and I live in the same house. I'm sure that me writing that he's scared of Downpour Dougy will result in hours of pillow fights.

But back to The Cadre; we're underpaid and overworked. There is so much to cover these days; provincial and student elections, big band after big band at The Wave, stories thought of over the summer, and so much more.

One of the biggest problems facing University papers is staff burnout. It hit The Cadre pretty

dammed hard in March of last year. There's little to avoid it, and for everyone reading this I'd like to give you a heads-up that soon we'll be starting to feel the effects of it. I'm trying my best to help; I ordered pizza tonight, I'm trying to get beer at The Wave for the staff and volunteers. The weekly pizza and pop just wont cut it. I don't want to have too much burnout. Because, as anyone who was around last year will know, no one gets hit harder by burnout than myself.

So keep your eyes open for the signs. They may not show up right away in The Cadre, but they may show up around the SUB. Piles of benches with Cadre staff swigging from a pint of Jack Daniels. Bicycle races around campus. Bicycles sprinting through the SUB, and crashing into tables. Just look for a bunch of loud guys doing stupid stuff being followed by an even louder guy with a camera yelling "More dangerous" or "Do something stupid!"

But it's all in good fun, we have to keep our sanity somehow. So after all the punishment we put our bodies and minds through for this paper, we hope you enjoy it. Read it, take some articles to heart, and laugh and forget about others. Follow some of the instructions, such as the health column, and especially the advise on voting. And make sure you get out and vote. We're Canadians. We brave all sorts of weather to vote. Downpour Dougy shouldn't stop anyone. I mean, c'mon, we're not Americans here, we should be able to get more then 14% voter turnout. Follow the instructions on how to vote on-line. And vote. This year it's so simple. Unless, of course, something goes horribly wrong with UPEI's network.

And that has never happened.

Thomas Lloyd, Editor-in-Chief

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