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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 4:30 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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It's Pronounced Caw-dray

So for you who haven't heard, next year I'll be Editor-in-Chief of The Cadre. I'm really looking forward to it, I must say. But as I put together this issue (issue number twenty), I can hardly believe it. Well, actually I can. It seems like this should have happened months ago. But then it seems like yesterday that I was up in the office working on issue five. I am not going to miss being Production Manager next year, but having my skills is going to make next year's P-Man's job a little bit easier.

It's Sunday night as I write this. It's past 2am. There's the occasional interruption of MSN, and I have an interview at 11am tomorrow. Twenty times I've done this... I'm at the point where I'm sure I have invisible fleas. I can feel them walking over my skin, but I can never find them...

This job has been a real experience. And also at some point I've come to the conclusion that working here for three years will prove more valuable than my five years spent in the classroom. Next year when I finally get my Arts degree, it appears as if that it will get me into the furniture-making business. However, there are jobs out there for people with a lot of experience working for university papers. One reason being that if I were to get paid over \$7 an hour I'd be amazed. Right now I get \$60 an issue. And each issue there's around 16 hours of work. And we're here for 32 weeks a year. I've worked it out to

making \$3 an hour working at The Cadre.

And I can't fail to mention how much fun I've had here. The free food, the yelling, the drunken rages, the intra- and inter-office romances. There are some really awesome people on this floor, and I'm really going to miss them not being around next year. But seeing how the elections went this year, there should be good times next year.

I remember at one point last year Matt Dorrell telling me that The Cadre will encompass my life; that it's happened to many before us. He was giggling, and his eyes were darting about, like he was well aware that the benefits of The Cadre are far outweighed by the scholastic failings and lack of vitamin D. But something keeps us working here, toiling week after week.

Our first issue this year had the Barn on the cover, and it took honestly 30 hours to complete. When I went down to the printers and came back with The Cadre, I handed it out one issue at a time to people. There was no better feeling than that; so much work into the issue, but people were wanting to read it. It was amazing.

Now it's months later, and it's well into Monday morning. I'm on the verge of failing classes, I still have papers to do, and my exams start shockingly soon. My ambition has been sucked from me by certain events in the past month, and I want nothing then for this year to

end. I want to bike, stretch out on the beach, and wear t-shirts outside. I want to boycott Peake's and Myron's, and make fun of people who go there. I want to drink cheap wine on the beach, drag logs from miles away, and have a giant fire. Then throw off my clothes with a bunch of friends and go swimming. I want to drive into a field and park around a fire pit. And drink beer and blare a car stereo until the car's battery is dead. Then sleep outside and be awoken by a rain storm, and have to share the cab of a truck with a girl I think is cute.

Over the past month I've talked to several people who've all contemplated dropping all of their classes. As I sit here, I'm wondering what would happen if I did. Would it make summer come sooner? Probably not. But one more week of this.

One more week, and the year is done.

I have done nothing all year.

That last statement is a complete lie, but that is how I feel at this moment. As the year winds down, I am left with the feeling of total disillusionment. Too much work left to the end, and I don't know what I'm working for. University is getting in the way of my self-determination and pursuit of happiness. I'm sure that's unconstitutional or something.

One more year of this, I can't hardly wait.

Thomas Lloyd, Production Manager



Back Cover: Cadre staff 2002-2003

Back Row L-R: Alex Field, Lennie MacPherson, Thomas Lloyd, Matt Stewart, Brodie MacRae.

Front Row L-R: Julie Veinot, Catherine Sweet, Marieve MacGregor.

Missing: Brad Deighan, Laura Fanning, Natasha MacKinnon.