

By Liam McKenna  
Sports Editor

## TEAM CANADA EMBARRASSES SLOVAKS, SELF

In their standard pre-game ritual, on Wednesday the Canadian team at the World Cup of Hockey before their game against Slovakia was not overconfident, knowing that in elimination rounds, anything goes with such a desperate (albeit winless) opponent. In my standard pre-game ritual, I put egg rolls in the oven so they would be ready by the second period, and donned my Montreal Canadians jersey ("McKenna, #8," in honor of Mark Recchi, one of the greatest ever to play the game), a ritual which helped Montreal oust Boston in seven games in the first round of last year's playoffs (I wasn't able to find time to watch any of the Tampa-Montreal games).

After a hard-fought first period, the Slovaks collapsed in the second, allowing four goals in about nine minutes. Canada's incredible skill and the luck of my tasty egg rolls and fashionable jersey were evident. Canada's overpowering offense continued into the third, when Jarome Iginla bulged the twine and put Canada into the lead 5-0. The Slovaks were clearly defeated, yet in a genuinely un-sportsmanlike and un-Canadian gesture, Team Canada continued pressing to embarrass the Slovaks by trying to increase their margin of victory to an even more ridiculous score. They didn't – thank God.

Don't get me wrong. I love Team Canada as much as the next guy – maybe more – but to press for goals in such a way is just wrong. This team was winless. We absolutely thumped them last time we played them, and this was no different. For real hockey buffs, it was a Calle Johansson-like gesture

in front of the open net; as the announcer put it when Johansson did it, it was "salt in the wound." There was no need for Johansson to stop in front of the empty net to give the defense a false hope of catching him in the crease before he scored a sure goal, and he isn't even a classy player. The announcer berated him. You won't find any announcers berating Team Canada on the CBC because we are, and always have been, a classy team. Until now.

I am a huge fan of Canadian hockey, but sometimes, you have to look past your own bias. I'm not going to write an article aimed at Ilya Kovalchuck or Alexei Kovalev for trying to be heroes and taking away Russia's only chance in the dying minutes of their last game. Nor am I going to berate Keith Tkachuk and the American team for their "I told you so" attitude after the game, even though I hate that team. I won't do that because before you can criticize other teams for being un-sportsmanlike and not playing the game with integrity you have to make sure that your team sets the bar for such play, especially at the international level. Canada used to do that, but after our last performance, I'm not sure anymore. Maybe what they really need is Mark Recchi.

(Note: Mark Recchi, a Philadelphia Flyer's star, recently took a pay cut to go back to the team with whom he started his career and won a Stanley Cup -- the Pittsburgh Penguins, even thought they suck. That's integrity.)

There appears to be no cause for alarm over another threat of a strike at UPEI. Rumors swirling around the UPEI Campus leading concerned students to believe the UPEI faculty is in a legal strike position have been proven to be completely false. Both the union representing the faculty and the university administration state that negotiations are ongoing and the union is not in a position to strike. Most technical and administrative support staff at UPEI have been working without a contract since it expired in April of this spring.

Anything can happen in negotiations, but currently the situation appears to be good. Leo Cheverie, the president of CUPE Local 1870 representing UPEI support staff told the Cadre the union is currently in the normal process of negotiations with dates set for negotiations throughout September and October. Even though their previous contract expired, Cheverie said negotiations with UPEI have traditionally taken

## Rumours of Impending UPEI Staff Strike Proven False

By Nick Stewart  
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time and this situation is not unusual. Peggy Leahey, Director of UPEI Human Resources, says the negotiations have been going well and are expected to be concluded over the course of the fall and winter.

Student Union President Clare Henderson responded positively to these statements by declaring, "the Student Union is pleased to hear that it looks unlikely that the students will be disrupted by a strike or lockout this year."

With rumours of a strike shown to have no merit, at the moment students can put aside the strike fears that plagued the university last year. Well, at least for a while. It should be kept in mind that it would not be unusual for a negotiation such as the current process to experience bumps in the road. But it is more likely that rough seas for students may return in a year's time as the faculty association's contract expires next June.

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