



THE CADRE
UPEI STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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The opinions expressed within *The Cadre* do not necessarily represent the views of UPEI or the UPEI Student Union Inc.

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Editorial 17: Gold

I had intended to write some sort of Olympic wrap-up last week but the homicidal rage which continues to grip the world distracted me. People are no less murderous or stupid this week, just slightly less headline-catchingly efficient in their respective slaughters.

The Olympics, though. Must stay on topic. I'll talk about how, based on a single rivetting game, Canadian Men's "ice-hockey" has regained the title of "best in the world." How could a team staffed by Lemieux, Sakic, Iginla, Brodeur, et al., be denied? (Short of having to play Sweden in the final.) Gretzky, above and beyond the rest of the team, deserves many thanks, much respect, or whatever it is we give victorious executive directors. Looking at his face during the games prior to the gold-medal win, you'd think the man had already been beaten several time over. Gretzky looked haunted, like he felt he couldn't go home until he had proven himself; as if being the greatest hockey player in history wasn't good enough for Canadians. The frightening thing is that he may not have been wrong.

I'm not normally the most fervent patriot, or the most enthusiastic flag waver, but I admit, after watching both the men's and women's hockey teams win gold, event the tackiest of the ubiquitous "Canada" brand Roots-wear was looking classy. I wouldn't dare fault anyone for their excitement, but I will suggest that the cheering over

Canada's victory against Belarus was a little sad. It felt as if Canadians thought that might be all we would have to cheer about. Clips of the game versus Belarus were leading national newscasts, and I was consistently disappointed by the lack of coverage of the women's team.

The women's team had not beaten Belarus, but an actual hockey team: the American squad, who came into the Olympics with a record of 8-0 against the Canadians. The Canadian women, who collectively make less than the lowest paid player on the men's team, pulled off one of the greatest upsets of the Games by winning the gold, despite officiating that was astoundingly poor, even for the Olympics. For their troubles, the Canadian women's win, in one of the most exciting hockey games I've ever seen, was preempted by the men winning a gimme-game.

The women - Charline Labonté, Sami Jo Small, Kim St-Pierre, Therese Brisson, Isabelle Chartrand, Geraldine Heaney, Becky Kellar, Cheryl Pounder, Colleen Sostorics, Dana Antal, Kelly Béchar, Jennifer Botterill, Cassie Campbell, Lori Dupuis, Danielle Goyette, Jayna Hefford, Caroline Ouellette, Cherie Piper, Tammy Lee, Vicky Sunohara, Hayley Wickenheiser and coach Daniele Sauvageau - deserved better.

Matthew Dorrell,
Editor-In-Chief

