

Alberta beats Acadia for CIAU hockey title

by Josh Rubin

To anyone who has seen the Trois Rivières Patriotes in OUAA action, it was an unimaginable sight.

The Patriotes were rudely dumped by the wayside Saturday at Varsity Arena in their bid for a second straight Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Union hockey title.

In a rare bit of poetic justice, it was the eventual champion Alberta Golden Bears who used a six-goal outburst in the second period to knock the Patriotes out with a crushing 9-1 victory in the semifinals.

It was these same Golden Bears the Patriotes had thrashed 7-2 last year to take the national crown.

The irony of the situation was not lost on Trois Rivières coach Dany Dube, whose squad was the top-ranked team in the country going into the four-team national tournament. Asked what went wrong, Dube replied "it was the exact same situation as last year, but in reverse."

The Alberta game was a frustrating one for Dube's players, matched up against a Golden Bear team that didn't miss a step on its way to victory.

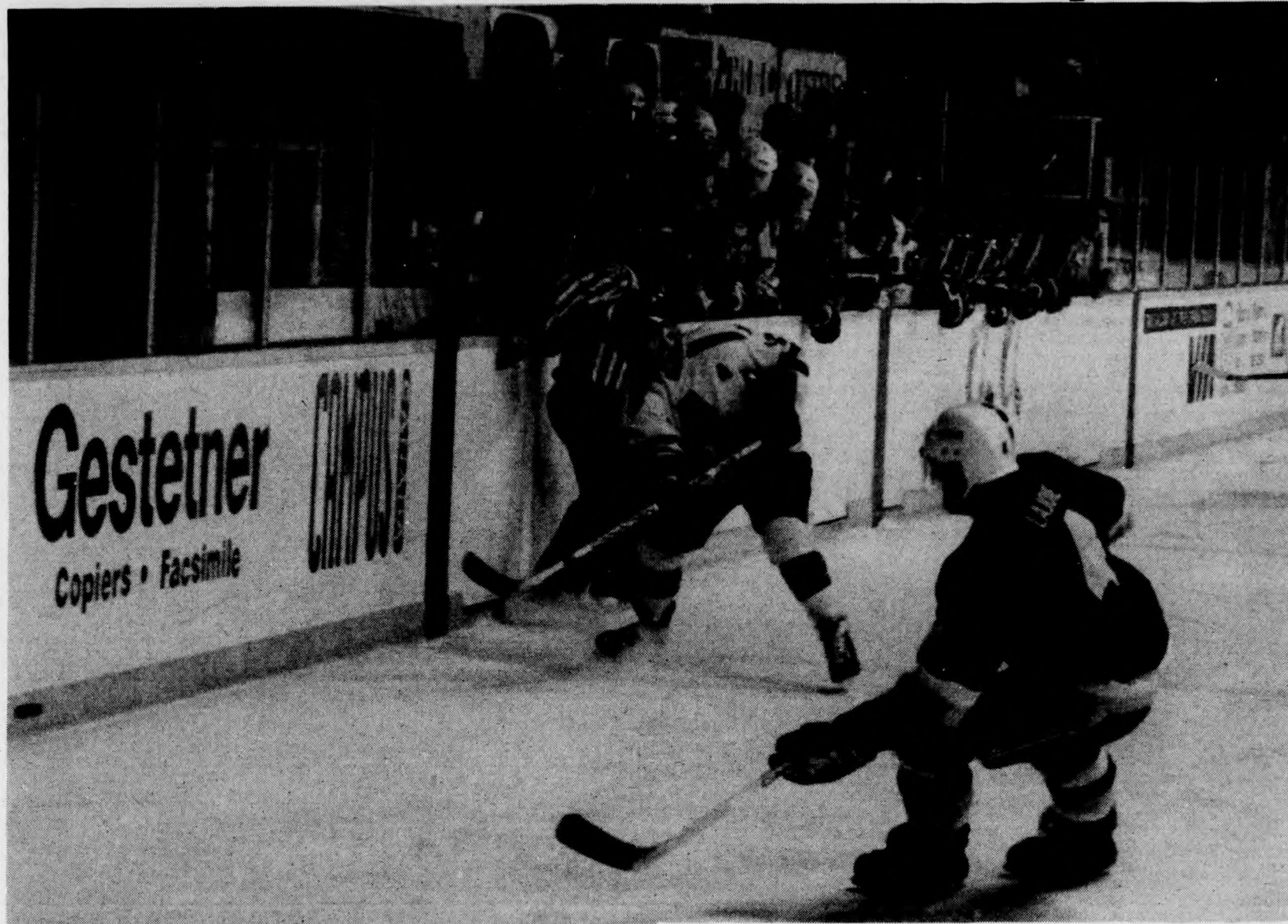
"We were playing against a hockey machine," said Dube, adding that it was Alberta's size which hurt Trois Rivières the most.

Early in the second period with his club down 4-0, Dube was even forced to pull All-Canadian netminder Denis Desbiens. In a visual display of frustration, Desbiens smashed his stick behind the bench.

After the loss, many of the Patriotes looked as though they were in shock. One veteran covered himself with a towel to hide the tears.

In Sunday's final, the Bears outplayed the Atlantic champion Acadia Axemen, to take the championship match 5-2.

The Axemen had reached the final by dumping the OUAA's other tournament representatives, the Laurier Golden Hawks 5-2 in Saturday's first



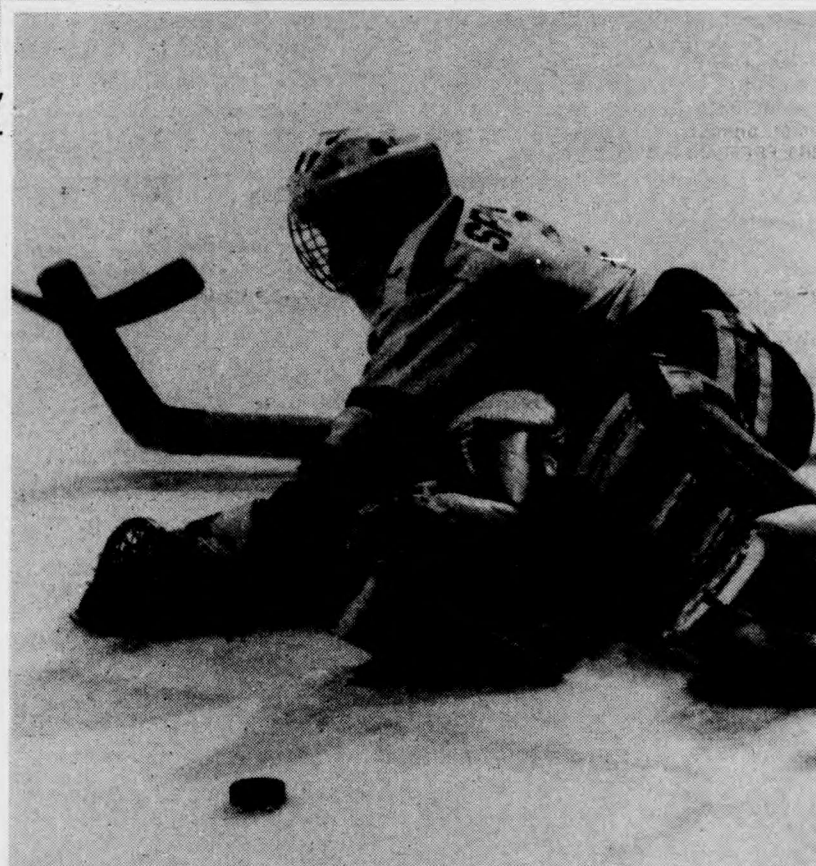
ACADIA and Alberta in action at the CIAU hockey final Sunday at Varsity arena. Alberta won the national crown with a 5-2 victory over the Axemen.

photo by Michele Boesener

semifinal matchup.

NOTES:...Rumours continue to fly that the OUAA may yet keep Trois Rivières in the fold. A weekend report said university presidents in Ontario were pushing for a reversal of the

league's decision last May to boot the Patriotes out... This year's final marked the first time since the 1982-83 season that no OUAA team was in the matchup for the national championship...



DENNIS BROXTON of the Axemen in action against Alberta. Acadia's ticket to the final of the National championships was a 5-2 win over Laurier, while Alberta pulverised Trois Rivières 9-1 to earn their berth in the gold medal match. These were the first Nationals since 1982-83 not to feature an OUAA team in the final photo by Michele Boesener

Mixed bag of results for York track athletes at Nationals

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teammate Chris Vaughan in third and Tim Mollar in sixth. Mollar jumped a personal best of 14.42 to take fourth spot in the triple jump.

The Yeoman quartet of Colin Inglis, Darren Gardner, Kevin Benner and Colin Wright came in third in the 4x400m relay, while York's 4x200 and 4x800m relay teams came in fifth and seventh place respectively.

In the women's competition,

Angie Coon was the only medallist for York, garnering a bronze in the 60m hurdles.

"She didn't have her best race of the season," York coach Sue Wise said afterwards.

The Yeowoman 4x200 m relay team, which came in seventh, was one spot short of making the points in that event.

If nothing else, the Winnipeg results clearly showed how much the departure of Nicole Masil and France Gareau, among others from last year's

CIAU bronze medal winning team, has affected this club.

In these two athletes York had some of the best women's runners in Canada, athletes who were capable of victory in a wide range of events, but most importantly, still finishing in the points when they couldn't win outright.

The Yeowomen still have excellent athletes, Angie Coon being the one who springs to mind first. Still, with her specialty being the 60m hurdles, even a win in that one category would not have lifted the Yeowomen from their doldrums in Winnipeg.

Defections will be taking place on the Yeomen also, but these should not affect the men's team to the same extent that Masil and Gareau's departure did for the women.

"We'll be losing Inglis and Gardner. They're both great athletes. It's going to be tough in the future. The competition is getting more difficult, but we have runners like Colin Wright. He's in his first year and he's the anchor for the relay," Wise said.

The team returned to Toronto Sunday morning.

"I was disappointed with the team scores, but individually we had some great performances," Sue Wise said.

Off-field incident mars track and field nationals at Winnipeg

Unfortunately, the 1991-92 National track and field championships held at Winnipeg over the weekend will be probably be remembered more for a confrontation between police and athletes, including several from York, than for achievements at the meet itself.

According to certain reports the athletes were jostled by police at a post-awards banquet party at their hotel after Saturday's competitions. One Windsor runner, Carl Folkes, was held in custody.

See the news section for more details.

Congrats Nicky!

Nick Davis will be Excalibur's Sports Editor next year. A regular contributor both to Excalibur and to CHRY Radio, Davis is a walking encyclopedia when it comes to York's varsity sports teams. With Nick at the helm, the sports section is in secure hands.

Davismania hits Excal Sports

Nick Davis is our new sports editor for next year!
Congratulations & good luck!