

Vikings raid Nationals

BY ANDREW COOK

They were the team that spent the majority of the season at number one in the coaches poll. They were the team with the national player of the year. They were the team with the national rookie of the year. Now, the Victoria Vikings are the 1997 CIAU Men's Basketball National Champions.

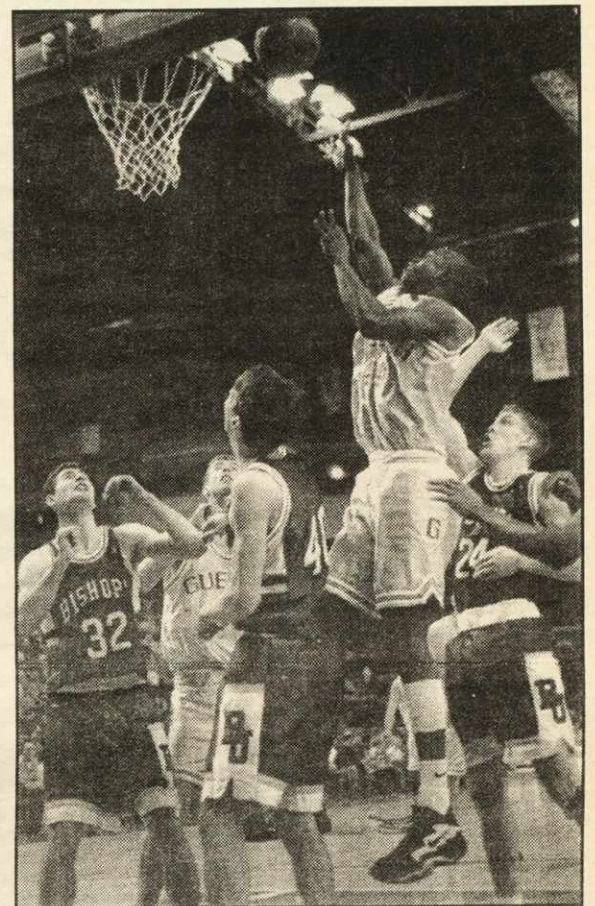
The Victoria Vikings used a huge performance from their veteran front court to carry them to an 84-73 victory over the McMaster Marauders in Sunday's final game. Vikings forwards Pat Cannon, Eric Hinrichsen and Seth Adler made shots when it mattered and controlled the glass all evening, slowing down top ranked McMaster en route to their first national crown since 1986.

Cannon, a fifth year senior forward made five of six shots from the field for 19 points while teammate, and player of the game, Adler shot seven for ten and dropped twenty points. The leader for Victoria, however, was Hinrichsen, the man who has shown the way the entire season. Hinrichsen, the CIAU's national player of the year, scored twenty points and hauled down a game high 14 rebounds on his way to being named tournament MVP.

For McMaster, first team All-Canadian guard Titus Channer was smothered

all game long, making only five of 16 shots. Senior forward Shawn Francis had a game high twenty-two points and ten rebounds but couldn't pull his team out of a mid-second half scoring drought that eventually did the OUAA west champs in.

In the semi-finals on Saturday night Victoria earned their spot in the final by knocking off defending champion Brandon 83-63. Cannon was the big gun for Victoria with 26 points and fourteen rebounds. McMaster advanced to the final via an 84-79 win over the OUAA East champion Laurentian Voyageurs. Channer had the tournament's most outstanding individual effort, marking 37 points in this game.



AUAA representative St. FX had an extremely poor showing in both of their contests. X turned the ball over 30 times on Friday night in their opening round loss to Laurentian. On Saturday in the consolation round, X turned the ball over another 26 times in their fifteen-point drubbing at the hands of Bishop's.

The tournament's all-star team was made up of Shawn Swords (Laurentian), Shawn Gray (Brandon), Cannon, Channer and Francis.

A special note of congratulations to Dalhousie's Shawn Plancke and Brian Parker on their post-season awards. Brian was named All-Canadian for the second consecutive season. Plancke won the TSN Ken Shields award for excellence in athletics, academics and community service. He was also named Academic All-Canadian.



Here are some snapshots from last weekend's basketball action at the Metro Centre.

(PHOTOS BY DANIELLE BOUDREAU)

Write sports

Yes I mean you

Don't get left out in the cold

You're just getting old

Seize the carpet

Write sports

Rowing beats the ice

BY JEANNE JU

Dalhousie Rowing Club hosted their 2nd Annual Indoor Rowing Championship in the Dalplex Fieldhouse Saturday afternoon.

Twenty competitors took turns strapping into concept II, Model B Ergometers (a fancy term for "rowing machines") and rowed a simulated 2000 metre time-trial. The athletes ranged from members of the Dal Rowing Club and the Halifax Rowing Club, to Canada Games rowers, to first-timers.

Two notable participants in the competition were past U.S. National Team Olympian, Bob Schwarz, and 1996 Canadian Sculler of the Year, Lawrence Nwaesei. Nwaesei will be trying out for Worlds and is destined for the Sydney, Australia Olympics to be held in the year 2000.

Dalhousie Rowing Club President and organizer of the event, Tim Church, noted that the turnout was very good, and hoped that the competition would help the athletes prepare for the spring season.