

RICHARD URBANOVICH from the University of Manitoba receives the 2005 Gino Fracas Award as the CIS's Most Outstanding Volunteer Assistant Coach

Hamilton, ON – Richard Urbanovich of the University of Manitoba is the 2005 recipient of the Gino Fracas Award as the Most Outstanding Volunteer Coach in Canadian University Football.

The award was presented on Friday, December 2, 2005 by Football Canada at the 2005 Desjardins Vanier Cup Awards Brunch.

Named in honour of Gino Fracas, legendary coach at the Universities of Alberta and Windsor, the award recognizes outstanding career service by a volunteer assistant coach.

Richard has coached for 20 years, 15 of those years in the CIS at the University of Manitoba as the Bisons' defensive secondary coach. During that tenure he has served under three head coaches and is the longest-standing coach in Bison Football history. He has coached on Bison teams that went to Vanier Cup in 2001 and were nationally ranked #1 in 2002. Richard has coached 15 defensive backs that have gone to the CFL as draft choices or free agents.

Richard coached at both the community and high school levels before joining the Bison staff in 1991. He has coached the Under 19 provincial team at various times over the past decade during the CIS off-season and has guest coached with the Winnipeg Blue Bombers for the last two years at training camp and through the CFL exhibition schedule.

Richard is not only a highly proven and successful CIS coach, but is more importantly one of Bison Sports and the Winnipeg sports community's most respected individuals. His loyalty and commitment to Bison Football and to the sport of football are of the highest merit. He is also very committed to his family (wife and three children) and his full-time job at Ucity Integrated Logistics where he serves as warehouse shipping and receiving manager. Bisons Head Coach Brian Dobie points out that even though Richard's players have left his tutelage with outstanding skills and a greater knowledge of the game, the gift that he has ultimately given them is through his graciousness, care, and understanding, helping them become better people.

Richard has presented at many coaching clinics and is highly recognized as being a technical coach and a great teacher, completing his Level 3 Technical and Practical components from the National Coaching Certification Program.

The Gino Fracas Award was introduced in 1988. Previous winners are:

2004	Ross Lemke	University of Montreal
2003	Rob Dalley	Wilfrid Laurier University
2002	Barry Radcliffe	University of Saskatchewan
2001	Frank Gesztesi	McMaster University
2000	Kevin Artichuk	Saint Francis Xavier University
1999	John Belmont	University of Alberta
1998	Mark Forsyth	McMaster University
1997	Rita Sue Bolton	Queen's University
1996	Peter Regimbald	Concordia University
1995	Gary Kirchner	McGill University
1994	Bill Miklas	Queen's University
1993	Bob Mullen	Queen's University
1992	Doug Smith	University of Toronto
1991	Clarke Samways	University of Western Ontario
1990	John MacNeil	Mount Allison University
1989	Phil Hughes	St. Francis Xavier University
1988	Morgan Clark	University of Windsor

For more information, please contact:
Tamara Medwidsky, Football Canada
Tel: (613) 564-6302 Fax: (613) 564-6309
programs@footballcanada.com

