The ACRA National Rowing Championships were held on the weekend of May 28th in the 1996 Olympic race course in Lake Lanier, Georgia. UC Irvine's Men's Rowing Team sent 4 boats to the regatta with hopes of bringing home a national title. On May 29th, student athletes Cole McGuire, Khalid Ellassaad, Michael Galanif, Anthony Lewis, and Alyssa Ford slammed their way down the 2 km race course during the Grand Final in the Men's Varsity 4+, a 4-oarsman and 1-coxswain boat. Irvine dominated runner-up Georgia Tech by over 4 seconds and claimed the championship title, putting UCI Crew in the national spotlight. Earlier that day, in the Men's Double Scull, athletes Ved Kirloskar and Matthew Gill surprised their competition by placing 3rd in the nation in their event. Irvine's Men's Novice 4+ also demonstrated a strong national presence by finishing 4th, despite having less than a year of rowing experience.

The tournament, US Intercollegiate Archery Championship, or USIAC, was held on May 20 at the Olympic Training Center in Chula Vista. After a relatively rough first day of shooting for many of our archers, subsequent days yielded amazing results. Ultimately, UCI ranked first in all basic bow teams (men, women, mixed), all recurve teams. Additional individual medals brought our totals to 8 gold, 4 silver, and 2 bronze medals. Finally, overall awards were decided based on assigning "points" to each medal and comparing the points between the competing schools. With the large amount of medals earned throughout each category, the UCI archery club was able to, for the first time in its history, earn first overall at a national tournament.

The Women's Varsity 4+ travelled to Gainesville, Georgia to participate in the American Collegiate Rowing Association National Championships in the hopes of medaling after finishing in 4th place at the Western Intercollegiate Rowing Association Championships. The crew was randomly sorted into their heat for Saturday where they faced Chicago, Denver, Georgia Tech, Vermont and Toledo. Not only did the Varsity 4+ finish first in their heat, qualifying them to move straight to the Grand Finals; they also completed the 2000 meter course with the fastest time of the day: 7:43.511. On Sunday, the crew made it out of the starting blocks and held a consistent second place behind Chicago and was battling with Northwestern State ULA. At 1200 meters in, UCI made a move and did not look back as they finished in 1st place with a time of 7:49.605, 5 seconds ahead of Northwestern State ULA and defeating 18 other crews that entered the event for the weekend. In the Grand Finals, UCI raced Northwestern State ULA, Marquette, Chicago, Oregon (who received 3rd place at WIRA), UC Davis, Ohio State, and Northwestern University.