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BASEBALL

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UIC Wins 2008 Horizon League Baseball Championship

Flames clinch second straight title, NCAA berth with 16-3 victory over Milwaukee.

May 25, 2008

[Box Score](#)

Niles, Ohio- The UIC baseball team clinched its second straight Horizon League Baseball Championship with a dominant 16-3 victory over Milwaukee at Eastwood Field on Sunday.

The Flames (34-20), who won the league tourney for the fourth time in the last six years, also earned the automatic berth to the 2008 NCAA Division I Baseball Championship and will play in their fourth NCAA Regional next weekend.

UIC was relentless at the plate right from the start. The Flames churned out a season-high 22 hits, with at least one base knock in every inning, and scored nine runs in the first two frames alone.

[Brett Schaefer](#), named the tournament's Most Valuable Player after the game, went a perfect 5-for-5 with four runs batted in on Sunday. The junior first baseman finished the championship with a .733 (11-for-15) batting average and seven RBI in four contests.

Starting pitcher [Peter Ifft](#) allowed just three runs while scattering seven hits in eight innings against Milwaukee (25-36), a team that averaged 10 runs and 15 hits in five previous tournament games this week.

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Brett Schaefer was named tournament MVP.

The Flames started the early scoring spurt with a five-run first. Five of UIC's first seven batters got aboard via hits, a stretch capped by [Brandon Harwell's](#) two-run homer.

UIC tacked on four more in the second, thanks to Schaefer's two-run single and RBI hits by [Kevin Coddington](#) and Harwell.

Three runs in the fourth, two in the sixth and single scores in the seventh and eighth rounded out the Flames' banner offensive day.

Leadoff man [Steve McGuiggan](#) went 4-for-5 and reached base safely in five of his six trips to the dish.

Schaefer, McGuiggan, Ifft and Coddington were named to the Horizon League All-Tournament Team.

This year's league tournament crown marks the first time UIC has won the championship in back-to-back seasons.

The Flames find out their NCAA Regional destination this Monday at 11:30 a.m. Central on ESPN.

Baseball Home

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