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**BASEBALL**

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## Baseball America Tabs UIC As Horizon League Favorite In 2006

Flames selected by national publication to claim league title, NCAA berth this season.

Jan. 25, 2006

**Chicago, Ill.-** The University of Illinois at Chicago baseball team, the reigning champions of the Horizon League, was selected to repeat last year's feat by *Baseball America* in the publication's college preview issue that was released this week.

Coming off of their second Horizon League Tournament title and second NCAA Regional berth in the last three years, the Flames featured six players in the magazine's preseason All-Conference Team.

Junior pitcher [Ryan Zink](#) (Madison, Wis./Lafollette) was projected as the league's player of the year by the magazine, while shortstop [Chad Schroeder](#) (Everett, Wash./Cascade/Mount Hood C.C.) was selected to be the newcomer of the year.

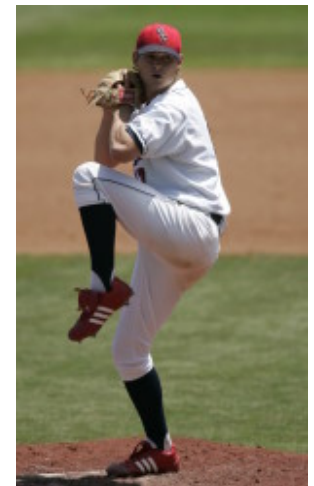
This marks the second consecutive year that Zink has been picked by *Baseball America* to be the Horizon League Player of the Year. The right-handed hurler went 8-6 last season with a 3.78 ERA and a team-best 74 strikeouts.

Among the UIC players listed in *Baseball America's* Preseason All-Horizon League Team include catcher [Justin Johnson](#) (Chaska, Minn./Chaska/Waldorf CC), infielder [Mark Hallberg](#) (Barron, Wis./Barron), outfielders [Larry Gempp Jr.](#) (Ingleside, Ill./Grant/College of Lake County) and [Ted Rosinski](#) (Wilmette, Ill./New Trier), and pitchers Zink and [Zach Peterson](#) (Minnetonka, Minn./Minnetonka).

UIC finished 38-21-1 in 2005 en route to their fourth consecutive Horizon League regular season title. The Flames went on

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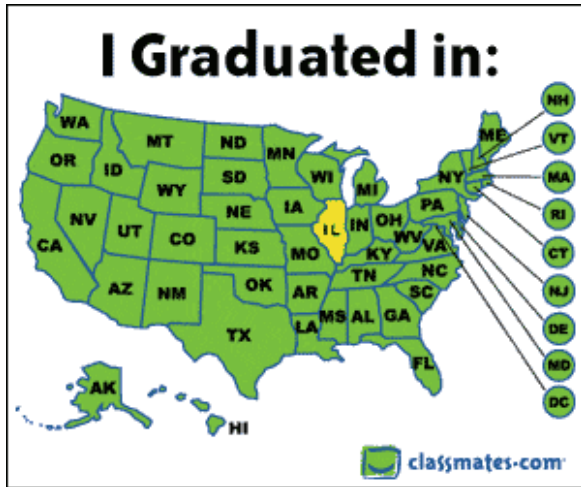
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Junior pitcher Zach Peterson was one of six Flames on *Baseball*

to take the league tournament championship and earned the school's second NCAA Regional berth, where UIC made headlines by taking third-ranked Nebraska to the limit on the Huskers' home turf in Lincoln before narrowly falling in an 8-6 affair on June 3, 2005.

The UIC baseball team opens the 2006 campaign against Air Force in Phoenix, Ariz., on February 17th.



America's Preseason All-Horizon League Team.

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