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**MEN'S BASKETBALL**

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## Men's Basketball Wraps Up Preseason By Drilling Marathon Oil, 83-71

Sophomore Cedrick Banks tallies 18 points and six rebounds in the victory.

Nov. 14, 2001

[Box Score](#)

Nov. 13, 2001

[Box Score](#)

**Chicago, Ill.** - The University of Illinois at Chicago men's basketball team earned an 83-71 victory over Marathon Oil in their exhibition finale at the newly renovated UIC Pavilion on Tuesday night.

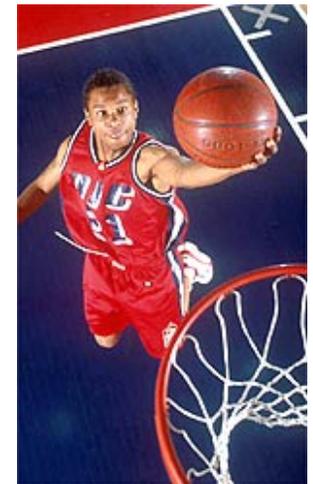
Sophomore guard [Cedrick Banks](#) led the way for the Flames as he poured in a team-high 18 points on eight-of-16 shooting from the field. Banks scored 12 of those points in the first half.

"I'm glad to see [Cedrick Banks](#) come back and play with some basketball intellect tonight," UIC head coach [Jimmy Collins](#) said. "Last week I didn't think he played as well.

"I didn't think he thought the game through, he was just wasting a lot of energy," Collins continued. "Today he came back and was very calculating in his moves and he made everybody else better."

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Sophomore Cedrick Banks netted a team-high 18 points in the Flames' win

Junior guard [Jonathan Schneiderman](#) and senior center [Thor Solverson](#) each chipped in nine points apiece for UIC.

"I always give credit to the point guards and I thought [Jonathan Schneiderman](#) was just tremendous," Collins said. "He was alert, he shot the ball well and he communicated better."

With the victory, UIC coach [Jimmy Collins](#) was able to clear the entire bench, as all 16 players on the roster, including walk-ons saw action on Tuesday night.

Both teams battled back and forth in the first half as UIC held onto a 21-20 lead with 9:17 left in the period.

The Flames, however, went on an 24-8 run that was highlighted by eight points from Banks that put the game out of reach for Marathon Oil.

Marathon Oil's Stanley Blackmon led all scorers with 19 points, while teammates Damion Dantzler (13 points) and Jerald Reiner (11 points) each turned in solid efforts for the squad.

UIC will open the regular season on Sunday, as they will square off with Indiana State at 5:00 p.m. in the nightcap of a doubleheader that opens with a women's contest against St. John's at 2:30 p.m.

Collins is looking forward to Sunday's meeting with Indiana State as they advanced to the second round of the NCAA tournament last season.

"We're looking for them to come in here thinking they can beat us," Collins said. "They made it to the NCAA's last year and they have a lot of players back.

"They've got size and experience and they're looking to get a road victory.," Collins said. "We're looking to present a challenge to a NCAA caliber team."

on Tuesday night.

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