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Men's Basketball Welcomes Rival UW-Milwaukee On Thursday

Flames and Panthers tip at 7:00 p.m. at the UIC Pavilion.

Jan. 7, 2003

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UIC (7-4, 1-1) vs. UW-Milwaukee (11-3, 3-0)

Thursday, January 9, 2003 * 7:00 p.m. CST

UIC Pavilion (8,000)

TV/Radio: ESPN Radio 1000 AM

SETTING THE SCENE: A heated rivalry is renewed on Thursday night when UIC welcomes its neighbor from the north, UW-Milwaukee, in a critical Horizon League contest. The Flames, who are coming in off a loss to Butler on Jan. 4, have won the last two games in the series, including a 75-63 triumph in the quarterfinals of the 2002 Horizon League Tournament. UW-Milwaukee, meanwhile, enters at 3-0 in the Horizon League and in search of its third league road victory of the season, having already toppled Detroit and Cleveland State in their gyms. The Panthers have won 10 of their last 11 games with the lone loss coming at Georgia on Dec. 28.

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Martell Bailey will help the Flames try and knock off league-leading UW-

THE SERIES: UW-Milwaukee leads the series have won 22 of the 36 all-time meetings between the two schools. UIC has won the last two meetings in the series, though, and the last three confrontations at the UIC Pavilion. The Flames are 7-6 versus the Panthers under head coach [Jimmy Collins](#).

SCOUTING THE PANTHERS: UW-Milwaukee enters Thursday night's tilt off to a school record 3-0 start in the Horizon League and winners of 10 of their last 11 games. The Panthers already have chalked up two wins on the road in league play, toppling Detroit and Cleveland State on their hardwood. On the floor, center Dylan Page paces four Panthers averaging in double figures with 17.9 ppg. The two-time Horizon League Player of the Week also is averaging a team-best 5.9 rebounds per outing. Preseason Player of the Year nominee, Clay Tucker, who was hampered earlier in the season by back spasms, is tallying 14.5 ppg and 4.5 rpg for UWM.

LAST TIME WE MET: UIC 75, UW-Milwaukee 63; March 2, 2002 (CSU Convocation Center) UIC upset third-seeded UW-Milwaukee in the quarterfinals of the 2002 Horizon League Tournament, 75-63, in Cleveland, Ohio. Trailing by nine with just under eight minutes remaining, the Flames closed the game on a 25-6 run to pull out the victory. [Cedrick Banks](#) led UIC with 20 points and nine rebounds while [Martell Bailey](#) added 12. [Jonathan Schneiderman](#) hit the biggest shot of the night, though, dropping in a three-pointer with the shot clock winding down to give UIC a four-point lead with 90 seconds left. Dylan Page paced the Panthers with 17 points.

MEMORABLE MEETINGS: UW-Milwaukee's last two trips to the UIC Pavilion have resulted in two of the most memorable UIC home victories in recent memory. In 2001, the Flames and Panthers battled into a record four overtimes, before UIC outlasted UWM, 112-106, in the longest game in Flames history. Last season, UIC trailed by 11 points in the final two minutes, but a furious comeback capped by [Martell Bailey's](#) 26-foot buzzer beater sent the UIC fans home happy, 73-71.

Milwaukee on Thursday.

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