



SOFTBALL

[Schedule/Results](#) | [Meet the Team](#) | [News Releases](#) | [Archives](#)

UIC Softball Inks Six Newcomers

Talented class looks to keep Flames among national elite.

Dec. 1, 1999

Chicago, Ill. - The elite programs in college sports never seem to miss a beat. No matter how many star performers they lose to graduation, these programs always seem to stay near the top of the rankings.

You have Duke in basketball and Florida State in football. Now, it looks like it's time to add the UIC softball program to that elite category.

UIC has won at least 50 games in six of the past seven seasons, including a trip to the 1994 College World Series. But with several stars - including at least one All-American - slated to graduate in May, the Flames needed a solid recruiting class to cement their powerhouse status for future seasons.

And they got it. UIC rounded out its 1999 recruiting class with six Letters of Intent from a stellar group of high school seniors. With that talent arriving on campus for the 2000-01 academic year, UIC' status as a softball powerhouse seems safe for the foreseeable future. "I think our success has put us in a position to bring in top blue-chip athletes," said UIC Head Coach [Mike McGovern](#). "I think this recruiting class shows that. When you have a program that is a consistent winner, the top athletes want to play for you."

The list of achievements for the recruiting class is impressive. The class includes four Californians and one player each from Illinois and Arizona.

Courtney Guthrie is UIC's first-ever recruit from Arizona. A pitcher from Peoria, Ariz., Guthrie's signing made high school headlines throughout the metro Phoenix area. Guthrie is one of three-pitchers that made up this year's recruiting class. Alison Aguilar and Alycia Creese -- both from California -- have also committed to playing in a Flames' uniform next season.

 [Printer-Friendly Format](#)

 [E-mail this article](#)

[Softball Home](#)

HEADLINES

[Softball Signs Four Student-Athletes To National Letters Of Intent](#)

[Amanda Scott Inducted Into Fresno Athletic Hall Of Fame](#)

[Michelle Venturella Serves As 'Principal For A Day'](#)

RELATED LINKS



CLICK HERE TO LISTEN LIVE TO UIC BASEBALL & SOFTBALL HOME GAMES

Aguilar is from Rolling Hills Estates and enters her senior season at Peninsula High School as the team's co-captain. As a junior she maintained a miniscule 0.28 earned run average (ERA) and led the team in on-base percentage. Peninsula has won its league championship during Aguilar's freshman, sophomore and junior seasons.

Creese will come to UIC from Covina, where she attends Charter Oak High School. She was named the San Gabriel Valley player of the year as a junior and was named to the all-conference first team during her first three seasons on the team.

With three new pitchers arriving on the season, the UIC coaching staff brought in a catcher as well. Jacqueline Vaca of Ontario, Calif., comes to the Midwest with impressive accomplishments of her own. Through her junior season, Vaca's batting over .350 and has led her team in home runs, walks, RBI's and batting average.

Rounding out the 1999 recruiting class are two field players. Shannon Perry (Addison, Ill.) and Amanda Rivera (Redondo Beach, Calif.) each bring big bats and solid fielding. Perry was a force at the plate her junior season, putting together a .561 batting average while knocking in 33 RBI's.

Rivera boasted one of the top batting averages among all California high school players, hitting a staggering .630 her junior season. She has been named to the All-Area team her freshman, sophomore and junior seasons.

[Follow all of the college softball action at CollegeSports.com](#)

[Email this to a friend](#)

[U I C Flames Softball](#)

 [Printer-friendly format](#)

 [Email this article](#)

[Visit other CBS Interactive Sites](#)