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Softball Takes 2004 Horizon League Tournament Title

Top-seeded Flames down #3 Loyola, 4-0, to earn NCAA Regional bid.

May 16, 2004

[Box Score](#)

Chicago, Ill. - The UIC softball team claimed the 2004 Horizon League Tournament championship and the NCAA Regional bid that comes with it on Sunday morning with a 4-0 victory over Loyola at Flames Field.

The Flames (39-21) will now await their NCAA postseason fate as pairings are released at 7:00 CST on ESPN News.

In the title game, UIC sophomore pitcher [Brittany McIntyre](#) came through with her best effort of the season, tossing a complete-game shutout. McIntyre scattered six hits and struck out four Ramblers, moving to a career-best 10-6 on the year.

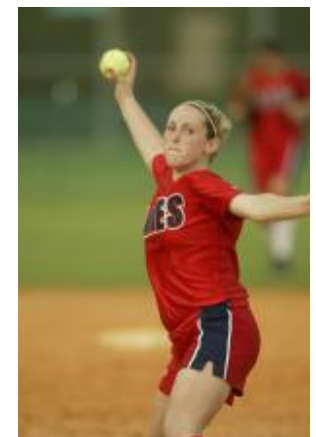
The Flames offense struck early versus the Ramblers (31-29), plating all four runs in the bottom of the first inning off starter Mia Pangere.

Sophomore [Michelle Miller](#) and junior [Sara Hernandez](#) started the rally with back-to-back one out singles. The Ramblers followed by walking Rivera to load the bases.

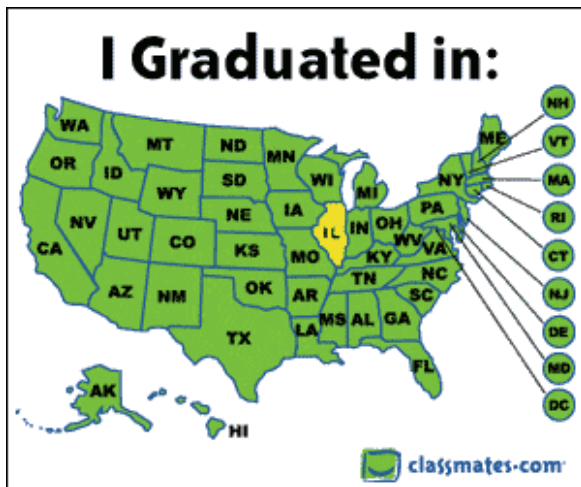
Senior [Alycia Creese](#) then made the score 1-0 with a sacrifice fly to

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Sophomore Brittany McIntyre tossed a shutout in the Flames' championship victory over Loyola.



deep center, which plated Miller and advanced Hernandez to third. Sophomore [Nicole Shepard](#) would tally the next RBI with a double, before rookie [Elizabeth Jacoby](#) made the score 3-0 with a single to center. Senior [Emily Stoddard](#) capped the rally with a slap RBI single through the middle.

Loyola's Lindsey LaChiana would enter in relief following Stoddard's hit and would keep the Flames off the scoreboard the rest of the way, allowing just four hits and striking out six.

The Ramblers couldn't scratch the scoreboard off McIntyre, though, as she stranded eight Loyola base-runners.

Following the game, McIntyre, who went 2-0 with a 0.58 ERA in two appearances, was name the Horizon League Pitcher of

the Tournament. She also earned a spot on the All-Tournament Team.

Rivera earned the batting champion award, as well as Horizon League Tournament MVP honors, posting a .750 (3-for-4) average with a double, home run and 3 RBI. She was also walked eight times, giving her a .917 on-base percentage for the weekend.

UIC's [Nicole Shepard](#), [Sara Hernandez](#) and [Alison Aguilar](#) were also named to the All-Tournament Team.

2004 Horizon League All-Tournament Team

[Amanda Rivera](#), UIC

[Brittany McIntyre](#), UIC

[Nicole Shepard](#), UIC

[Sara Hernandez](#), UIC

[Alison Aguilar](#), UIC

Lindsey LaChiana, Loyola

Beck Marx, Loyola

Tara Miller, Loyola

Amanda Cody, Wright State

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