

2005 Season Preview

After graduating eight seniors in 2004, Chicago will be a different-looking team in 2005. Those eight seniors left with a four-year record of 89-41 representing the most wins and highest winning percentage (.685) of any previous graduating class in University history. They played on the three teams with the most single season wins in University history, compiling a record of 75-26 (.743) in those years. Their final season was another 20+ win year that was highlighted by finishing the season as the second highest scoring team in the nation (10.8 runs per game) with the third highest team batting average in the nation (.358). The 2004 team set all-time University single season records in runs scored (398), hits (447), triples (19), RBI (342), total bases (605), walks (182), and on-base percentage (.453).

Five starting positions behind the pitcher have been left open with the graduation of those eight seniors. However, seven pitchers return who pitched 234.2 of the 270 total innings played by the 2004 team. These pitchers should be the strength of the 2005 team with major contributions expected from seniors **Dan Harrington** and **Matt Altomare** along with juniors **Dan Yeksigian** and **Brian Olson**. Harrington lead the 2004 team in ERA, appearances, innings pitched, and strikeouts while Altomare lead in wins and shutouts. Olson posted a 5-0 record last year while appearing in 10 games, as did Yeksigian. Senior **Steve Ruh** will also contribute in a spot starting role on the mound when not playing shortstop. Sophomores **Dan Cozzi** and **Robert Wilson** along with freshmen **Nate Ginsberg** and **Dominik Meyer** are expected to show that they are ready to fill key pitching roles when called upon.

The catcher's position should also be a strength in 2005 as **Chris Kocinski** and **T.J. Rajceovich** return after catching all 270 innings played by last year's team. Rajceovich will start at third base and Kocinski will play some first base when not catching. Senior **Justin Garrett**, who hit .378 last year, will start at first base while sophomore **John Thomas** will contribute at third base when Rajceovich catches. The middle of the infield has suffered the most from graduation since four contributors there have left. Ruh will start at shortstop after hitting .389 last year primarily as a center fielder. Junior **Zach Seward** provides depth while sophomore **Tony Zitek** and junior **Matt Assad** man second base.

Two of the three outfield positions seem determined with senior **Frank Brown** in center and junior **Ryan Denton** in right. Brown hit .325 last year and Denton hit .314. Senior **Mike Costello** is the leading candidate for the starter's role in left field if he rebounds from an injury that kept him off the field last year. Freshmen Ginsberg and **Mike Serio** are ready to contribute in left field when called upon.

The Maroons' will open their 2005 schedule with a tournament in southern Illinois on March 11 and 12 before heading to Port Charlotte, Florida on March 18 for their nine-day spring trip.

2005 Roster

No.	Name	B/T	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown (High School)
1	John Thomas	R/R	2B/3B	5-10	185	So.	Bloomington, Ind. (South)
2	Ryan Denton	R/R	OF	5-9	165	Jr.	Worth, Ill. (Marist)
3	Dan Yeksigian	R/R	P	6-0	175	Jr.	Downers Grove, Ill. (Benet Academy)
4	Zack Seward	R/R	SS/2B	6-0	185	Jr.	Mill Valley, Calif. (Tamalpais)
5	Steve Ruh	L/R	SS/P	5-10	185	Sr.	Northbrook, Ill. (Glenbrook North)
6	T.J. Rajceovich	R/R	3B/C	5-7	170	Sr.	Waukegan, Ill. (Waukegan)
8	Nathan Ginsberg	L/L	P/OF	5-10	180	Fr.	Dobbs Ferry, NY (Dobbs Ferry)
9	Robert Wilson	L/L	P	6-0	160	So.	Driggs, Idaho (Teton)
10	Tony Zitek	R/R	2B/SS	5-11	155	So.	Tampa, Fla. (Plant)
11	Chris Kocinski	R/R	C/1B	5-10	200	Jr.	Antioch, Ill. (Antioch)
12	Matt Assad	R/R	2B	5-11	175	Jr.	Gumee, Ill. (Carmel)
13	Jared Gogek	R/R	OF	5-9	175	Fr.	Marquette, Mich. (Marquette)
14	Justin Garrett	R/R	1B/C	6-1	195	Sr.	Columbus, Ind. (East)
15	Jordan Onulak	R/R	2B/SS	6-0	170	Fr.	Edison, NJ (John Stevens)
16	Brian Olson	R/R	P	5-9	175	Jr.	Glen Ellyn, Ill. (Glenbard South)
18	Mike Costello	R/R	OF	6-1	190	Sr.	Orland Park, Ill. (Marist)
19	Mike Morgan	L/L	OF	6-0	155	Fr.	Chicago, Ill. (Northridge Prep)
20	Dan Harrington	R/R	P	6-0	185	Sr.	Libertyville, Ill. (Libertyville)
21	Dan Cozzi	R/R	P/1B	6-2	170	So.	Park Ridge, Ill. (St. Ignatius)
23	Matt Altomare	R/R	P	6-4	195	Sr.	Philadelphia, Pa. (St. Joseph's)
24	Dominik Meyer	R/R	P	6-3	210	Fr.	River Forest, Ill. (Oak Park-River Forest)
25	Mike Serio	R/R	OF	5-9	175	Fr.	Antioch, Ill. (Carmel)
28	Frank Brown	R/R	OF	5-8	165	Sr.	Chicago Heights, Ill. (De La Salle)

Chicago Baseball Facts

* The 2005 season represents the 112th consecutive year of varsity intercollegiate baseball at the University of Chicago.

* The 2004 Maroons ranked 2nd in the nation in scoring (10.8 runs/game) and 3rd in batting average (.358) after the 2003 team ranked 9th in scoring (9.5 runs/game), 5th in batting average (.362), and 9th in winning percentage (.806).

* Since 1996: won-loss record of 184-104; eight winning seasons; six 20+ win seasons.

* The 2005 Maroon roster includes players from 9 different states: Illinois (14), Indiana (2), Michigan (1), Florida (1), California (1), Pennsylvania (1), New York (1), New Jersey (1), Idaho (1).

* Ten NCAA Top 10 national team rankings at season-end since 1997; winning percentage (three times), homeruns, scoring (four times) and batting average (twice).

* Four NCAA national individual championships at 1997 season-end: home runs, runs scored, RBI, slugging percentage.

* Eleven players named to NCAA All-Region team since 1996.

* Since 1995: 16 all-time University career records set; 22 all-time University individual season records set; 21 all-time University single season records set.

* Eleven consecutive years with a team GPA of 3.1-3.2.

* The Maroons play home games at J. Kyle Anderson Field located on campus immediately adjacent to the site of the Gerald Ratner Athletic Center, the University's new \$51 million indoor facility.

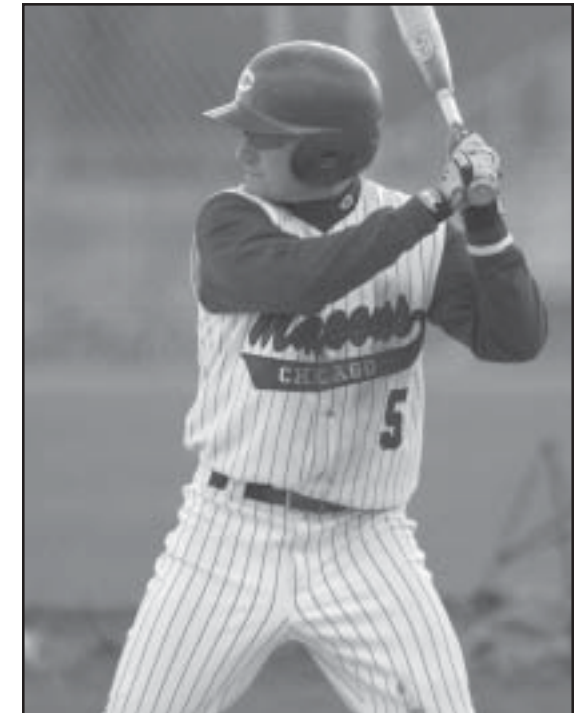
* The Maroons have graduated 49 players since 1996: 23 have gone on to graduate school (8 in law, 7 in medicine, 8 in other fields of study) and 13 have entered careers in the financial services industry (trading, investment banking, management).

* Several players selected to receive the following honors since 1996: All-American, Academic All-American, All-Region, Amos Alonzo Stagg Medal, MLB Draft selection.

2005 Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Mar. 11	at Greenville College (DH)	1:00 pm
Mar. 12	at Maryville University (DH)	1:00 pm
Mar. 19	Western New England College#	11:00 am
Mar. 20	Westfield State College (DH)#	10:00 am
Mar. 21	Bowdoin College#	12:00 pm
Mar. 22	DePauw University#	3:00 pm
Mar. 23	Mass. College of Liberal Arts#	9:30 am
Mar. 24	Western Conn. State University#	12:00 pm
Mar. 25	St. Olaf College (DH)#	12:30 pm
Mar. 26	St. Norbert College#	9:30 am
Mar. 30	Dominican University	3:00 pm
Apr. 2	Trinity Christian College (DH)	12:00 pm
Apr. 3	at MSOE (DH)	12:00 pm
Apr. 6	at Robert Morris College	3:00 pm
Apr. 8	Illinois Tech	3:00 pm
Apr. 9	at Concordia University (DH)	12:00 pm
Apr. 12	North Park University	3:00 pm
Apr. 15	North Central College	3:00 pm
Apr. 17	Rockford College (DH)	12:00 pm
Apr. 19	at Wheaton College	3:30 pm
Apr. 23	Aurora (DH)	12:00 pm
Apr. 26	at North Park University	3:00 pm
Apr. 27	Carthage College	3:00 pm
April 30	at Benedictine University (DH)	4:00 pm
May 4	at Elmhurst College	3:00 pm
May 7	at Edgewood College (DH)	1:00 pm
May 11	at North Central College	3:00 pm
May 14	Rose Hulman Inst. (DH)	12:00 pm

#at Port Charlotte, Fla.



Senior **Steve Ruh** hit .389 for the Maroons in 2004.

Coaching Staff

Head Coach Brian Baldea



With a record of 184-104-1 since 1995, Brian Baldea has enjoyed a wealth of success as the University of Chicago's Head Baseball Coach.

Under Baldea, Chicago has re-written the all-time University baseball record book and posted six of the seven 20+ win seasons in the University's 111-year history of intercollegiate baseball. Chicago players have been named to the NCAA Division III All-Central Region Team in each of the last eight years.

Baldea's 2004 team ranked second in the NCAA Division III in scoring with 10.8 runs per game while posting the nation's third-highest batting average of .358. The 2003 Maroons scored 9.5 runs per game (eighth in the nation) and hit .362 (fifth in the nation) as they achieved the seventh-best winning percentage (.806) in NCAA III. His 2001 team shattered the all-time University record for wins and ranked 15th nationally in winning percentage (.765) and 12th in scoring (9.26 runs/game) as they set the win record for the third time in five years. The 1998 Maroons gave the school three consecutive 20-win campaigns. Baldea's 1997 team provided Chicago with its first Major League Draft pick; All-American and Academic All-American infielder Mark Mosier. Along with his duties as Head Baseball Coach, Baldea holds the rank of Associate Professor and serves as Associate Chairman of the Department of Physical Education and Athletics at Chicago. He and his wife Kathy have two children, son Anthony and daughter Gina.

Assistant Coach Scott Budeselich



Scott Budeselich begins his third year at Chicago in 2004-2005. He came to Chicago in August 2002 after serving as Special Projects Coordinator at the American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) central office.

Budeselich works primarily with the Maroon hitters and outfielders. He played three seasons at Chicago State University, graduating in 1998. In 1997, Budeselich was selected to the Mid-Continent Conference All-Academic Team. While completing his bachelor's degree requirements in Physical Education, he worked as a student teacher and Assistant Junior Varsity Baseball Coach at Thornwood High School.

Budeselich obtained his Master's Degree in Sport Administration from Central Michigan University in the summer of 2002.

In addition to his coaching duties, Budeselich serves the University of Chicago as Assistant Sports Information Director.

Chicago Academics

The University of Chicago is consistently rated among the very best universities in the country for the strength of its faculty and the effectiveness of its teaching. It is a premier academic institution renowned for its emphasis upon general education for undergraduate students. The faculty is composed of distinguished scholars and teachers who typically teach both undergraduate and graduate courses.

Classes are small (83% have fewer than 25 students), the student-to-faculty ratio is 4:1, and seminar-style discussion is the dominant mode of instruction. More than 50 concentration programs (majors) are available to undergraduate students, many of which are rated among the nation's very best. The University of Chicago lays claim to over 70 Nobel Prize winners, more than any other university in the world.

Athletics are deeply rooted in the history of the University and thoroughly mixed into the fabric of the institution. The baseball program is highly committed to the concept of the student-athlete. Striving for excellence on the baseball field and superior preparation as an undergraduate student dominate the goals, ideals, and efforts of the program.



Senior pitcher Dan Harrington fanned 8.4 batters per nine innings in 2004.

The Campus and City

The University of Chicago occupies 211 acres of land in the Hyde Park neighborhood seven miles south of the Loop, Chicago's central downtown area. The world-class stature of the University is reflected in the campus; a mix of beautiful Gothic buildings and state-of-the-art research, laboratory, library, and athletic facilities.

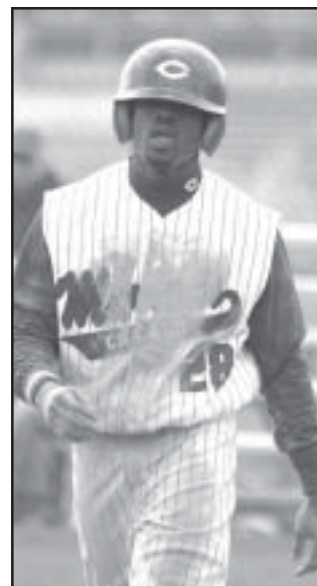
The nation's third largest city by population, Chicago is recognized as the home of the skyscraper, the blues, pizza, Wrigley Field, and an incredible variety of diverse ethnic neighborhoods. It's been known for more than a generation as "the city that works". It is big, strong, vibrant, and able to provide an unparalleled array of cultural, recreational, social, and educational opportunities. Up and down the stretch of parks, beaches, museums, and impressive structures on its 23-mile long lakefront, Chicago is as exciting and cosmopolitan as any city in the world. However, just a few blocks in from Lake Shore Drive it suddenly becomes a quiet, proud, and friendly city of neighborhoods.

Admissions & Financial Aid

As a selective academic institution, The University of Chicago requires the successful applicant to present a record of achievement in a challenging high school program along with evidence of scholarly initiative.

Prospective students may apply under the regular notification program which uses January 1st as the application deadline. However, applicants desiring an admission decision by mid-December may apply under the early action program, requiring the submission of all application materials by November 1st.

Approximately 60% of undergraduate students receive College grants. The effort is made to ensure that all admitted students have access to adequate financial aid packages which may include scholarships, low-interest loans, and term-time employment.



Senior Frank Brown posted a .460 on-base percentage in 2004.

Directory

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CHICAGO

BASEBALL



2005