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MEN'S BASKETBALL

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Men's Basketball Advances To Top Of The World Classic Title Game With 66-63 Win Over San Diego State

Sophomore Othys Jeffers paces the Flames past the Mountain West favorites with 13 points and nine rebounds.

Nov. 19, 2005

[Box Score](#)

Fairbanks, Alaska - The UIC men's basketball team advanced to the championship game of the 10th Annual BP Top of the World Classic on Saturday afternoon with a hard-fought 66-63 victory over San Diego State at the Carlson Center.

The Flames (2-0) advance to meet the Denver/Souther Miss winner on Sunday at 5:30 p.m. AST/8:30 p.m. CST.

Newcomers [Othys Jeffers](#) and [Danijel Zoric](#) tied for team-high scoring honors with each tallying 13 for UIC. Jeffers added nine rebounds while Zoric pulled down five caroms.

Senior [Justin Bowen](#) was the third Flames player in double figures with 10. Freshman [Josh Mayo](#) netted a career-best seven points and sophomore [Robert Bush](#) dished out a personal-best five assists.

Brandon Heath paced the Aztecs (1-1), the preseason favorites in the Mountain West Conference, with 18 points, knocking down four three-pointers.

It was a back-and-forth battle between UIC and San Diego State on Saturday as the two teams were separated by no more

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Sophomore Othys Jeffers tallied 13 points and nine

than six points over the final 29 minutes of play with 14 ties.

The Flames clung to a 64-63 lead with :23 left when Bush came up with a key steal off a Kyle Spain pass.

Bush was tied up, but the possession arrow favored UIC. On the inbounds, senior [Elliott Poole](#) (8 points, 8 rebounds) found Jeffers streaking to the basket for a dunk and a 66-63 lead.

The Flames held off two late Aztec attempts to tie to advance to the tournament title game.

UIC shot 54% in the second half and 44% from the field for the game. The Flames outrebounded the Aztecs, 36-30, including a 16-11 advantage on the offensive end.



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rebounds for UIC on Saturday.

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