



UPPER MIDWEST ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

2008 BASEBALL PRE-SEASON POLL

ST. PAUL (Feb. 26, 2008) -- Winner of the last 11 Upper Midwest Athletic Conference (UMAC) baseball titles since 1997, the College of St. Scholastica was once again picked by the league's coaches to finish atop the conference. The Saints received 48 points in the preseason poll, including six first-place votes. This year's season will give St. Scholastica at least an early challenge, having lost five position starters and five of the team's top six pitchers from last year's NCAA tournament squad.

Following St. Scholastica in the poll is Bethany Lutheran College, who boasts 11 pitchers and position players returning from last year's starting lineup. The Vikings finished third in the UMAC last year with a 12-7 league record.

Northwestern College rounds out the poll's top three teams, as the Eagles advanced to the National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) National Tournament after their 15-6 UMAC record in 2007.

Complete results of the preseason coaches poll are listed below.

SCHOOL	POINTS
1. College of St. Scholastica	48 (6)
2. Bethany Lutheran College	41 (1)
3. Northwestern College	38 (1)
4. Presentation College	31
5. Northland College	23
6. Univ. of Minnesota-Morris	22
7. Martin Luther College	14
8. Crown College	7