

Windy City Sports offer fun pastime

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Chicago has a rich history with its sports teams, with some more successful than others (Looking at you, Cubs). Between the 8 professional sports teams who call Chicago home, there have been a total of 26 championships won spanning the 144-year history of sports in Chicago.

Right now, the most popular team in Chicago is the Blackhawks, the professional hockey team of Chicago. They have won two Stanley Cups in the last four years and worked hard this season, falling just a few games short of another. They play at the United Center, also known as the "Madhouse on Madison," along with the Chicago Bulls, the professional basketball team here in the Windy City.

The Bulls, after struggling in the post-

Michael Jordan era, have flourished under head coach Tom Thibodeau and are led by stars like Derrick Rose and Joakim Noah. The Bulls were knocked out of the first round of the playoffs, but are early NBA Championship contenders for next season.

The Chicago Sky is also a professional basketball team in Chicago and play in the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA). They play at the Allstate Arena out in Rosemont, but represent Chicago as well as any team as they are inching closer to their first WNBA Championship.

The Chicago Bears are the professional football team in Chicago and can be found on many Sunday afternoons at famous Soldier Field just down the lakefront from IIT. Da Bears are a team of new talent and coaching and look to reassert their title as the Monsters of the Midway with their always stifling defense. Jay Cutler and Brandon Marshall are the stars of the offense

while Charles "Peanut" Tillman is a constant menace on the defense. Look for the Bears as they begin their search for a Super Bowl title next fall.

The Chicago Red Stars, whose name comes from the red stars on Chicago's flag, are the professional women's soccer team of Chicago and were only formed within the last 10 years. They have done a great job carrying on Chicago's traditions and are a fixture in the playoffs year in and year out.

The other professional soccer team is the men's team, the Chicago Fire, who play at Toyota Park as a part of Major League Soccer. The Chicago Fire has had legends in their past like Eric Wynalda and Brian McBride along with rising stars, including reigning MVP, Mike Magee. They are just a train ride away from IIT and a great experience to watch in the world-class confines of Toyota Park.

The two baseball teams in Chicago

are fierce rivals as demonstrated every year in the Crosstown Classic between the two sides. The Chicago Cubs reside on the Northside in Wrigleyville and play at Wrigley Field. They have not won a World Series since winning two in 1907 and 1908. The club is believed to be cursed and is known by their supporters as the lovable losers.

Just across the highway from IIT are the Chicago White Sox and US Cellular Field. They are the team of the Southside and the adopted team of many IIT students. It is very common for the Office of Campus Life to put \$5 tickets on sale for White Sox game many times a year. The office also often sells discounted tickets for other Chicago-area sports games. IIT and the Office of Campus Life are proud to continue Chicago's support of sports teams through the passionate students of IIT.



Photos courtesy of chicagotraveler.com



Saturday, August 23
Women's Soccer
vs. Benedictine University
6 p.m.

Sunday, August 24
Men's Soccer
vs. Concordia Illinois
1 p.m.

Saturday, August 30
Men's Soccer
@ Waynesburg College
Defiance Tournament (OH)
1 p.m.

Women's Soccer
@ College of Staten Island
12 p.m.
College of Staten Island Fall Classic (NY)

Sunday, August 31
Women's Soccer
@ John Jay College of Criminal Justice
12 p.m.
College of Staten Island Fall Classic (NY)