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Midwest Conference Volleyball

St. Norbert Follows MWC Title With Five All-Conference Players

RIPON, WIS -- Midwest Conference and Tournament Champion St. Norbert was rewarded for their success this season by having a league-high five players named to the All-Conference Team, including three on the First-Team. MWC Tourney qualifiers Beloit and Monmouth, the former of whom reached the Tournament final, each finished with four selections, while Carroll, Illinois College, Lake Forest, and Ripon followed with two apiece. Grinnell, Knox, and Lawrence also had a player named to the list giving each school in the conference at least one representative.

After being named MWC Player of the Year in 2007, St. Norbert senior **Joanna Mamayek** repeated by winning the award again this season and becoming only the third student-athlete in league history to accomplish the feat. The six-foot middle hitter led the conference in hitting percentage (.381) for the third consecutive season, while also finishing in the top first in the league in kills (332), fourth in kills per game (2.89), and first in blocks (150). Mamayek, who added 74 digs and 17 service aces this season, was also ranked ninth nationally in hitting percentage and 13th in blocks.

A pair of coaches have been named 2008 Co-MWC Coaches of the Year. In her first season, St. Norbert Head Coach **Bethani Thibodeau** shares the award with Beloit Head Coach **Dawn Kelly**. Thibodeau directed her team to the 2008 MWC and Tournament Titles while opening the season with 19 consecutive wins. Under her direction, the Green Knights led the league in hitting percentage (.236), opponent's hitting percentage (.087), assists (1,236), kills (1,392), blocks (381), and most importantly win (30-3, 9-0). In her second season Kelly took a Beloit squad that was preseason-ranked sixth in the conference and posted an 8-1 MWC-mark, losing only to Champion St. Norbert. After starting 1-7 the Buccaneers hit their stride winning 17 of their last 23 matches.

Three St. Norbert players headline the 2008 MWC All-Conference First Team, as senior outside hitter **Katie Casebolt** and junior outside hitter **Sam Jungbluth** were recognized along with Mamayek. Junior outside hitter **Mary Parker** and sophomore outside hitter **Tess Jacquez** represent Beloit with Monmouth adding a pair of seniors to the list in middle hitter **Samantha Robinson** and libero **Crystal Myers**. Senior middle hitter **Jeni Yaeger** is Ripon's sole First-Team representative with Grinnell's **Claire Reeder**, Illinois College's **Angela Siebers**, Knox's **Katharina Schulte**, and Lake Forest's **Lisa Sturgill** rounding out the list.

--2008 MWC Volleyball All-Conference Teams--

2008 MWC Player of the Year

Joanna Mamayek, Senior, Middle Hitter, St. Norbert College

2008 Co-MWC Coaches of the Year

Dawn Kelly, Beloit College, 2nd Year

Bethani Thibodeau, St. Norbert College, 1st Year

First Team All-Conference

Mary Parker	Jr.	OH	Beloit College
Tess Jacquez	So.	OH	Beloit College
Claire Reeder	So.	MH	Grinnell College
Angela Siebers	Sr.	MH	Illinois College
Katharina Schulte	Jr.	MH	Knox College
Lisa Sturgill	Sr.	L	Lake Forest College
Samantha Robinson	Sr.	MH	Monmouth College
Crystal Myers	Sr.	L	Monmouth College
Jeni Yaeger	Sr.	MH	Ripon College
Joanna Mamayek	Sr.	MH	St. Norbert College
Katie Casebolt	Sr.	OH	St. Norbert College
Sam Jungbluth	Jr.	OH	St. Norbert College

Second Team All-Conference

Christine Brown	Sr.	OH	Beloit College
Caitlin O'Leary	So.	S	Beloit College
Jessica Fleck	Jr.	MH	Carroll University
Heather Kulibert	Fr.	OH	Carroll University
Katie Miller	Sr.	OH	Illinois College
Ashley Cretacci	Sr.	OH	Lake Forest College
Melissa Schnettler	Jr.	OH	Lawrence University
Tanasha Hughes	Sr.	OH	Monmouth College
Alyson Schroeter	So.	OH	Monmouth College
Sara Heim	Jr.	L	Ripon College
Danielle DeGroot	Jr.	OH	St. Norbert College
Sarah Sulentic	So.	MH	St. Norbert College

