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VOLLEYBALL

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Volleyball Tabbed For Fifth In Horizon League Preseason Poll

UW-Milwaukee picked to repeat as Horizon League champions.

Aug. 18, 2005

Chicago, Ill. - The University of Illinois at Chicago volleyball team was predicted to finish fifth out of eight teams in the Horizon League preseason poll of the league's coaches released on Monday.

UW-Milwaukee, the 2004 Horizon League regular-season champion, was unanimously picked in 2005 to repeat, as the Panthers claimed all seven first-place votes from the opposing coaches to finish with 49 points.

Butler was selected to finish second with 38 points, narrowly edging 2004 Horizon League Tournament Champion, Loyola, who earned 37 points. Cleveland State was picked to place fourth with 31 points, followed by **UIC (26)**, UW-Green Bay (23), Wright State (12) and Youngstown State (8).

The Flames, who tied for fourth-place in 2004, will return the services of All-Horizon League setter [Katie Kozak](#), along with junior middle hitter [Ambria Springer](#) and sophomore right side hitter and Horizon League All-Newcomer selection, [Katarina Nedeljkovic](#).

Kozak finished the 2004 campaign with 1,332 assists, which was good for fifth in school-history for a single-season. Springer and Nedeljkovic combined for over 500 kills last season.

UIC will open its season on Friday, August 26th, as they will host Northern Illinois at 7:00 p.m. at the Flames Athletic Center.

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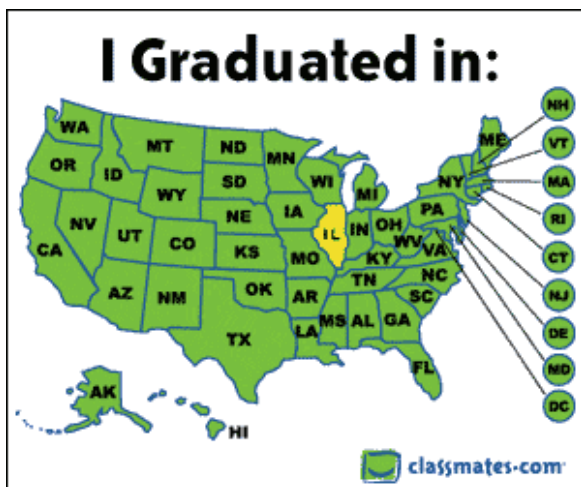
Junior setter Katie Kozak and her teammates were picked to finish fifth overall in the Horizon League.

2005 Horizon League Preseason Volleyball Poll

1.	UW-Milwaukee (7)*	49 points
2.	Butler	38 points
3.	Loyola (1)*	37 points
4.	Cleveland State	31 points
5.	UIC	26 points
6.	UW-Green Bay	23 points
7.	Wright State	12 points
8.	Youngstown State	8 points

NOTE: The Head Coaches vote in this poll. Teams received seven points for a first place vote, six points for a second place vote, etc. The Head Coaches were not allowed to vote for their own squads.

* Indicates the number of first place votes received.



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