

2013 MIAC Football Preview and Preseason Coaches' Poll

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2013 MIAC FOOTBALL CONFERENCE PREVIEW

ST. PAUL, Minn. -- As the 2013 football season gets set to kick off, the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) boasts a pair of top-10 teams, a host of other talented contenders, countless individual returning stars and coaching changes at one-third of the schools, including the retirement of college football's all-time wins leader. If the on-field product is as rich as the storylines, this fall will certainly be unforgettable.

The top offseason news in the conference was the retirement of Saint John's legendary Head Coach John Gagliardi, who departs with the most wins - 489 - in the history of college football. After roaming the sidelines for 60 years at Saint John's (64 total), the absence of Gagliardi will no doubt be felt throughout the entire conference. But as the league transitions to life without a living legend, plenty of teams and student-athletes are ready to carry the torch.

After Gagliardi's retirement, MIAC attention turns next to the continued excellence at the University of St. Thomas. The Tommies enter the season ranked No. 2 in the nation in all three preseason polls after going 14-1 a year ago, with their only loss coming to Mount Union in the NCAA Division III championship game. Head Coach Glenn Caruso and UST became the first MIAC team to complete three-straight perfect 10-0 regular seasons in 2012, and they've advanced one step further in the postseason each season since Caruso took over. That leaves just one step left for 2013 - a national championship - and the Tommies return a team capable of another MIAC title and national prominence.

However, Bethel joined UST in the second round of the 2013 postseason, and Head Coach Steve Johnson returns tons of talent and high expectations from his 9-3 squad (6-2 MIAC). The Royals are ranked as high as No. 6 in the preseason polls, and they'll enter the season as St. Thomas' top competition in the conference, and further evidence of the MIAC's overall strength.

Concordia, which went 8-2 overall and tied Bethel with a 6-2 MIAC mark last season, was the second team listed outside the top 25 in the D3football.com "Others receiving votes" section, and Augsburg (7-3, 5-3 MIAC) also received a vote in the poll. Add in always-talented teams at St. Olaf (7-3, 5-3 MIAC) and Saint John's (5-5, 3-5 MIAC) and suddenly the MIAC landscape appears to be as strong as ever. Gustavus (3-7, 2-6 MIAC), Carleton (3-7, 1-7 MIAC) and Hamline (1-9, 0-8 MIAC) also have high hopes entering the 2013 season, with plenty of opportunities for signature wins on their schedules.

A year ago, the MIAC's relative toughness came in the form of tangible results. Six of the conference's nine teams were .500 or better, with five of those teams winning at least seven games overall with .700 or better winning percentages. Against nonconference foes the MIAC was dominant, going 13-0 over the first two weeks of the 2012 season and 16-2 overall. Many weeks, the MIAC had three teams ranked in the Top 25, with as many as five receiving votes. To top it off, the MIAC led the nation in Division III football attendance.

That standard of success seems to set an impossibly high, but the MIAC seems as strong as ever, and poised to continue its ascent on the Division III football landscape. Starting Friday, an exciting 11 weeks of MIAC football kicks off and, if the action matches the anticipation, fans of the conference are in for the ultimate football feast.

ST. THOMAS SUCCESS PREDICTED AGAIN

After the Tommies' run to the Division III title game a year ago and their MIAC three-peat, it's no surprise that Caruso's crew is the conference favorite again atop the 2013 MIAC Football Preseason Coaches' Poll. The Tommies received all eight first-place votes (coaches could not vote for their own team) and 64 points to ranks as the unanimous conference favorite.

Bethel was the consensus No. 2 team in the conference and, according to the coaches, UST's biggest No. 1 challenger. The Royals received the other first-place vote and 56 points. After that is where things get interesting, and the conference's parity is reflected with just two points separating the next three teams. Augsburg finished third with 44 points, and tied for fourth just a point back at 43 were both Concordia and Saint John's.

St. Olaf received 27 points in the poll to finish sixth, just three points ahead of Gustavus. The Gusties got 24 points and came in seventh in the predicted standings. Carleton (13 points) edged Hamline (10 points) for the No. 8 spot as the Knights and Pipers rounded out the poll's final two spots.

WHAT'S NEW?

The 2013 season will be one of major change in the MIAC. The coaching change at Saint John's - the Johnnies first in 60 years - has been incredibly well-publicized, but the conference will welcome three new head coaches this fall as one-third of the league went through a coaching change in the offseason.



However, the SJU change is the highest-profile transition for a reason. Gagliardi was an institution in the MIAC, Division III and all of college football. Though college football's all-time wins leader will no longer be on the sidelines, his legend will forever be tied to football coaching excellence in the MIAC, as the conference coaches and administrators unanimously elected to name the conference's top coaching honor the "MIAC John Gagliardi Coach-of-the-Year" award.

Replacing him is a familiar face in a new role. Gary Fasching takes over as the Johnnies' head coach after 17 seasons as an assistant under Gagliardi. Fasching also played linebacker for SJU, graduating in 1981, so even though the legendary coach has ridden off into the sunset, many of the traditions and ideals surrounding SJU football will remain.

St. Olaf also went with a familiar face as its new head coach when former coach Jerry Olzsewski accepted the top job at Division II Augustana in Sioux Falls, S.D. Craig Stern, who was the Oles' assistant head coach, was promoted to the head job. Stern has been on the St. Olaf staff for nine seasons, so the transition should be a smooth one in Northfield, as well.

Hamline also ushered in a new era when Chad Rogosheske was hired to replace John Pate as the Pipers' head coach. Once again, a MIAC team went with familiarity, as Rogosheske spent a dozen years at Hamline as a player and an assistant coach. His assistant coaching stops also include D-III Wartburg and D-I Ohio State and Bucknell along his road back to his alma mater.

WHO'S BACK?

There's a reason St. Thomas is again favored to win the MIAC and ranked No. 2 in the nation ... Caruso's team returns a ton of talent and experience from a team that nearly captured the national title in 2012. There are 16 players back with starting experience, led by junior QB Matt O'Connell, who is 31-1 as a starter and accounted for 27 TDs a season ago. All-America OLB Tremayne Williams and 1,000-yard rusher Brenton Braddock are also back in starring roles once again.

Bethel is blessed with plenty of returning talent as well, starting with All-American senior LB Seth Mathis, the leader of the always-accomplished Royal defense. All-MIAC DB J.D. Mehlhorn is also back, and QB Erik Peterson and WR Mitch Hallstrom lead a Bethel offense that could be more explosive and vertical than usual.

Augsburg has enjoyed a nice progression, and moving into the top three in the league would further the development of Frank Haege's program. Dual-threat QB Ayrton Scott set the MIAC on fire as a freshman, and the star sophomore is poised to continue his ascent in 2013. All-America TE Adam Carl will again be one of Scott's favorite targets the MIAC's most feared downfield weapons, while DB Hakeem Bourne-McFarlane returns as the leader of the Auggie defense.

Concordia spent most of 2012 in the Top 25 and in contention for the MIAC title and a postseason bid, and the Cobbers have high hopes again despite the loss of MIAC MVP Brett Baune and Mike Stam Award winner Tom Knowlton. Concordia welcomes back junior QB Griffin Neal, All-MIAC DT Mark Wychor and Neal's favorite target, WR Mark Whiting. In Collegeville, the Johnnies also have talent back on the offensive side of the ball to start the Fasching era. SJU will be led by All-MIAC lineman Kevin Battis, WR Josh Bungum, who emerged in his first year in 2012, and dangerous RB/returner Jake Essler.

St. Olaf has two big pairs of shoes to fill - from the same family - with the graduation of All-MIAC brothers Dan (QB) and Ben (DB) Dobson, but Stern will lean heavily on perhaps the league's best receiving corps with seniors Stephen Asp and Jake Schmiesing back for the Oles. All-MIAC OL Alexander Hsu also returns for St. Olaf. Gustavus will rely once again on the running ability of star senior Jeffrey Dubose, who is just 40 yards shy of 2,000 for his career. A pair of senior All-MIAC Second Team picks - Joe Hass (LB) and Donte Green (DT) - are back to lead the Gustie defense in 2013.

Carleton graduated a pair of outstanding defensive backs in Mike Elder and Paul Hoffer, but has high hopes for its passing attack with QB Conor Lynch and Preseason All-American WR Chase Gottschalk back on the offensive side of the ball. Junior LB Zach Heinrich returns as the Knights' second-leading tackler. Hamline's success in Rogosheske's debut season will start in the backfield with Austin Duncan, who had 10 total TDs in a breakout freshman season in 2012, and junior RB Ryan Ferkinhoff. Senior DL Derek Wilson returns to lead the Piper defense this season.

CIRCLE THESE DATES

The MIAC season will start with a rare kickoff under the Friday night lights, as Saint John's travels to UW-River Falls to begin the 2013 season Friday at 7 p.m. There are six more games Saturday, with five teams opening on their home field. Carleton hosts Grinnell, Hamline hosts UM-Morris, St. Olaf hosts Northwestern and Concordia hosts Jamestown all at 1 p.m., with St. Thomas hosting UW-Eau Claire at 1:10 p.m. Augsburg at Concordia-Wis. at 1 p.m. is the only road game Saturday.

Nonconference action continues the following week, starting with St. Thomas at UW-River Falls on Thursday, Sept. 12, at 7:10 p.m. Bethel and Gustavus will open their seasons - both at home - on Saturday, Sept. 14. The Royals host Wartburg and the Gusties get a visit from Simpson, with both kicking off at 1 p.m.

The conference season starts Saturday, Sept. 21. with several intriguing games on the schedule. St. Thomas hosts Saint John's in the annual Tommie-Johnnie showdown in St. Paul at 1 p.m. St. Olaf visits Concordia at 1 p.m., and Hamline hosts Carleton in the only evening kickoff of the MIAC season at 7 p.m. in St. Paul. A week later Bethel opens MIAC play by hosting Augsburg at 1 p.m. on Oct. 5.

The league's two top-ten teams, St. Thomas and the Royals, will square off in a must-see matchup on Saturday, Oct. 19 on Bethel's home field in Arden Hills at 1:10 p.m. The MIAC regular season wraps up on Saturday, Nov. 16.

A CLOSER LOOK

The rest of the 2013 MIAC Football Preview contains complete results from the 2013 Preseason Coaches' Poll, a video from MIAC Media, helpful links and a preview for each team submitted by their sports information director. The new MIAC web site - www.miacathletics.com -

will be an outstanding source for MIAC football news, schedules, scores, stats and more throughout the 2013 season.

Visit the [MIAC scoreboard](#) on game days to follow all the action, and download the [MIAC mobile app](#) to have all the information with you anywhere you travel. Also, connect to the conference on its [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#) pages for updates and interaction all season long.

2013 MIAC FOOTBALL PROMOTIONAL VIDEO

MIAC Media visited numerous MIAC football teams' preseason camps to collect footage of the players and coaches preparing for the upcoming season. The result is [this promotional video](#) announcing the start of another outstanding MIAC football campaign.

2013 MIAC FOOTBALL PRESEASON COACHES' POLL

Coaches voted for every team in the conference except their own team. Points were assigned for each vote (eight for first, seven for second, etc.) Teams are ranked in order of highest point total to lowest with vote totals listed and first-place votes shown in parentheses.

2013 MIAC Football Preseason Coaches' Poll		
Rank	Institution	Total
1	St. Thomas (8)	64
2	Bethel (1)	56
3	Augsburg	44
T4	Concordia	43
T4	Saint John's	43
6	St. Olaf	27
7	Gustavus	24
8	Carleton	13
9	Hamline	10

2013 MIAC FOOTBALL LINKS

| [2013 MIAC Schedule](#) | [2012 MIAC Statistics](#) | [MIAC Recordbook](#) | [MIAC Archives](#) |

TEAM-BY-TEAM PREVIEWS

Jump to: | [AUG](#) | [BU](#) | [CAR](#) | [CON](#) | [GAC](#) | [HU](#) | [SJU](#) | [STO](#) | [UST](#) |



AUGSBURG | [Auggies' football home page](#) |

Head coach

- Frank Haegel (Eighth season)

A Year Ago

- 5-3 MIAC (T-4th place) | 7-3 Overall

Top Returners

• Adam Carl (TE, SR | D3football.com All-America 1st team in 2012, D3football.com All-West Region in 2011 and 2012, All-MIAC 1st team in 2011 and 2012; 2013 Preseason All-America by D3football.com, Lindy's and Beyond Sports Network; 53 catches for 640 yards and 8 TD receptions in 2012, 112 receptions for 1,257 yards and 15 TDs (14 rec., 1 rushing) in career)

- Hakeem Bourne-McFarlane (DB/WR, SR | All-MIAC 2nd team, D3football.com All-West Region 3rd team in 2012; 2013 Preseason All-Division III Team by Lindy's; 50 tackles, 5 interceptions (1 TD return) and 8 passes defended in 2012 on defense, 14 receptions for 202 yards and 2 TDs on offense; also 1 kick return TD as team's primary kick and punt returner)
- Ayrton Scott (QB, SO | All-MIAC 1st team, D3football.com All-West Region 3rd team in 2012; 2013 Preseason All-America 2nd team by Beyond Sports Network; single-season school record 1,436 rushing yards on 209 carries with 12 rushing TDs in 2012, along with 2,245 passing yards on 173-of-283 passing with 26 passing TDs against 12 INTs; 368.1 total offense yards per-game was 3rd-best in Division III in 2012)

Key Losses

- Brian Rud (OL | All-MIAC 1st team, D3football.com All-West Region 3rd team in 2012; 3-year starter; offensive line averaged 471.2 yards of total offense per-game in 2012, while giving up just 31 tackles for-loss (3rd-fewest in D-III) and 6 sacks; 237.9 rushing yards per-game and 233.3 passing yards per-game)
- Bryce Vee (LB | All-MIAC 2nd team in 2011 and 2012; 3-year starter; 99 total tackles, 5.0 tackles for-loss, 0.5 sacks and 1 INT in 2012; had 9-plus tackles in 9 of Augsburg's 10 games in 2012; Recorded 293 total tackles in career, including 11.5 tackles for-loss, 2.5 sacks and 2 INTs, with at least 1 tackle in each of his 39 career games)
- Tyler Swanson (WR | All-MIAC 1st team in 2012; 37 receptions for 604 yards and 11 TDs in 2012; 11 TDs tied for tops among MIAC receivers in 2012, while 5th in MIAC in overall receiving yardage and 8th in receptions; In career, recorded 81 receptions for 1,224 yards and 16 TDs)

By the Numbers

- 3,681: Yards of total offense recorded by QB Ayrton Scott in 2012 -- a single-season school record 1,436 rushing yards and 2,245 passing yards. Scott's 368.1 yards of total offense per-game were third-most among all Division III players nationally, while his 143.6 rushing yards per-game were 8th-most nationally in Division III.
- 2: The total number of first-years among the 74 players named to the All-MIAC teams in 2012, as well as the total number of first-years on the 75-player D3football.com All-West Region teams, with QB Ayrton Scott making up 50 percent of the total. Scott was the lone first-year player on the 37-player All-MIAC 1st team in 2012.
- 7-3: Augsburg's 2012 record, the best overall record for the squad since finishing 10-2 overall (9-1 MIAC) in its 1997 MIAC championship season. Augsburg has recorded above-.500 records in each of the last two seasons -- the first time Augsburg has recorded above-.500 records in consecutive seasons since a three-year stretch from 1997 to 1999.

Did You Know?

- TE Adam Carl has achieved success in both football and baseball, recording All-MIAC and all-region honors in both sports. In football, he has earned All-MIAC first-team honors in both 2012 and 2011, while being named to the D3football.com All-West Region squad in both years (1st team in 2012, 2nd team in 2011). He was also named to the D3football.com All-America 1st team in 2012. As a shortstop in baseball, Carl has earned All-MIAC honors in both 2013 and 2012, while earning ABCA All-Midwest Region 2nd-team honors in 2012.

Off the Field

- Center Chad Thompson was named to the Capital One Academic All-America Division III Football Team by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) in 2012, becoming the seventh Auggie football player to earn Academic All-America honors in program history. In all, Augsburg student-athletes have earned 26 CoSIDA Academic All-America honors since 1981 (13 since 2005), including 11 first-team honors.



BETHEL | [Royals' football home page](#) |

Head coach

- Steve Johnson (25th Season)

A Year Ago

- 6-2 MIAC (T-2nd place) | 9-3 Overall

In the 2012 Postseason

- Defeated Concordia University-Chicago 24-23 in the opening round of the NCAA Division III Championships. Following the first round victory, Bethel lost to UW-Oshkosh 37-14 in NCAA Division III Championships Region Quarterfinal.

Top Returners

- Seth Mathis (Linebacker, Sr. | 2012 AFCA and D3football.com All-American First Team, Two-time MIAC All-Conference, 2012 MIAC leader in tackles, 5-time preseason All-American in 2013)
- Mitch Hallstrom (Wide Receiver, Sr. | 2012 MIAC All-Conference, 2012 statistics: 45 receptions (No. 1 in MIAC), 898 total yards (No. 1 in MIAC), 74.8 yards per game (No. 2 in MIAC)
- J.D. Mehlhorn (Safety, Sr. | 2012 All-MIAC, 2012 D3football.com West Region Third Team)

Key Losses

- Josh Wolfe (Center | Two-time MIAC All-Conference, 2012 D3football.com West Region Third Team)
- Brett Skoog (Linebacker | 2012 MIAC All-Conference First Team, 2011 MIAC All-Conference Second Team)
- Jared Penz (Guard | 2012 MIAC All-Conference First Team, 2011 MIAC All-Conference Second Team)

By the Numbers

- **8:** Bethel University's football program was ranked No. 8 in D3Football.com's 2013 preseason poll. This is the third time in program history BU has been a preseason Top-10 team. The Royals have been ranked in the Top-25 since October 25, 2010—the longest stretch in program history.

- **7:** Bethel reached the NCAA Division III Playoffs for the seventh time in program history since 2000 after receiving an at-large bid to the 2012 postseason. The Royals defeated Concordia University-Chicago in the first round to improve its playoff record to 7-7.
- **19:** The Royals have composed 19 consecutive seasons without a losing record against conference opponents—the longest streak among all MIAC competitors. Bethel's last sub-.500 record against conference foes dates back to the 1993 season.

Did You Know?

- Head coach Steve Johnson ranks No. 9 in all-time wins among active NCAA Division III head coaches. Johnson enters the 2013 season with 173 victories and 78 losses (.687 winning percentage) in his 24 years as head coach for the Royals. Entering his 25th year as head coach, Johnson is the longest-tenured coach in the MIAC.

Off the Field

- Graduated nose guard Gavin Maurer was announced on March 7 as one of 29 male recipients nationwide—across all three divisions—to receive the NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship. As a scholarship beneficiary, Maurer received a \$7,500 grant that can be applied to continuing education beyond the undergraduate level. Maurer is the seventh athlete from Bethel University to receive this monetary gift.



CARLETON | [Knights' football home page](#) |

Head coach

- Bob Pagel (Second season)

A Year Ago

- 1-7 MIAC (Eighth place) | 3-7 Overall

Top Returners

- Chase Gottschalk (Wide Receiver, Sr. | Preseason All-American in 2013; All-MIAC Second Team in 2012; paced the Knights in receptions (37), receiving yards (620), and yards per catch (16.8); ranked second in MIAC with 549 receiving yards during conference games and an average of 17.2 yards per catch)
- Conor Lynch (Quarterback, Sr. | Started first seven games in 2012 before sustaining injury)
- Zach Heinrich (Linebacker, Jr. | Totaled 64 tackles in 2012 to finished second on squad)

Key Losses

- Mike Elder (Safety | D3football.com All-Region; All-MIAC Second Team; finished with 64 solo tackles—a figure that ranked second among all NCAA defensive backs and finished eighth among all D-III players regardless of position; also led MIAC in kick/punt return yardage)
- Paul Hoffer (Position | paced Knights in interceptions (3), pass breakups (4), and blocked kicks (2) and was third on the squad in tackles)
- Andy Zweber (Running Back | Finished fourth in MIAC with 9 rushing touchdowns on only 52 carries)

By the Numbers

- 13.6: Anthony Kemper, the Knights' second-leading receiver last fall, averaged 13.6 yards per catch to rank sixth among MIAC players. He also averaged a conference-best 24.3 yards per kick return.
- 38: The Knights were penalized only 38 times last season—third-best in the D-III—for an average of 39.7 yards per game. Both figures were best in the MIAC.
- 71: Carleton scored touchdowns on 71 percent of its drives into the Red Zone. That was the fourth-best rate in the conference.

Did You Know?

- Linebacker Zach Heinrich had the highest passer rating in the MIAC in 2012. His lone attempted resulted in a 53-yard special-teams touchdown against St. Thomas.

Off the Field

- Six Knights—Paul Hoffer, Caleb Hyde, Pete McNeely, Max Timm, DJ Turner, and Andy Zweber—were among the 29 MIAC players to earn membership into the National Football Foundation's Hampshire Honor Society last year.



CONCORDIA | [Cobbers' football home page](#) |

Head coach

- Terry Horan (13th season)

A Year Ago

- 6-2 MIAC (T-2nd place) | 8-2 Overall

Top Returners

- Griffin Neal (QB, Jr. | 2012 All-MIAC 2nd Team; top 5 in the MIAC in completion percentage, passing yards and touchdowns in conference games)
- Mark Wychor (DT, Sr. | 2012 All-MIAC 1st Team; 3.0 tackles for a loss in 2012)
- Mark Whiting (WR, Sr. | 2012 All-MIAC 2nd Team; led CC in receiving yards in 2012)

Key Losses

- Brett Baune (FB | 2012 MIAC MVP; 2012 D3football.com All-Region; school record holder in career TD's)
- Tom Knowlton (OT | 2012 MIAC Mike Stam award winner; 2012 D3football.com All-Region)
- Matt Moenkedick (LB | 2012 All-MIAC 1st team; led team in tackles in 2012)

By the Numbers

- 5: Concordia needs five wins to reach the 500-win plateau as a program. The Cobbers are starting their 96th year of football and have 495 career victories.
- 44: Concordia senior kicker Ben Wagner was 44-for-44 in extra points last season. That is the longest consecutive extra point streak in school history
- 255.6: Concordia averaged 255.6 rushing yards per game last season which was tops in the MIAC and 15th in the nation

Did You Know?

- Concordia senior fullback Luke Gotta is the oldest of nine children and has type 1 diabetes



GUSTAVUS | [Gusties' football home page](#) |

Head coach

- Peter Haugen (Fifth Season)

A Year Ago

- 2-6 MIAC (Seventh place) | 3-7 Overall

Top Returners

- Jeffrey Dubose (Sr., Running Back, St. Paul, Minn.) - 2012 First Team All-MIAC...Ranks 11th all-time on the Gustavus yards rushing list with 1,960...Averaged 122.4 all-purpose yards per game in seven games played last season (led team).
- Joe Haas (Sr., Linebacker, Mission, Kan.) - 2012 Second Team All-MIAC...Led the team in total tackles with 91 last season (7th/MIAC) and also led the team in solo tackles with 45 (6th/MIAC)...Led the team in total tackles each of the last two seasons.
- Donte Green (Sr., Defensive Tackle, Minneapolis, Minn.) - 2012 Second Team All-MIAC... Anchor of the Gustavus defensive line...Led the d-line in total tackles with 41.

Key Losses

- Brian Grundmeyer (Offensive Line, Inver Grove Heights, Minn.) - Two-time Second Team All-MIAC (2011, 2012)...Started 30 straight games from 2010-2012...Key piece in helping Gustavus rank fourth in the MIAC in rushing yards per game against league opponents (172.4 ypg).
- Muresuk Mena (Quarterback, Inver Grove Heights, Minn.) - Led the team in total offense with 549 yards rushing and 1,090 passing (204.9 ypg)...Scored six touchdowns on the ground and nine through the air...Also ranks eighth on the all-time career receptions list at Gustavus with 104.

By the Numbers

- 40: The number of yards senior running back Jeffrey Dubose needs to eclipse the 2,000-yard mark in his collegiate career.
- 17: The number of starters returning on the offensive and defensive sides of the ball combined.
- 27: The number of takeaways registered by the Gustavus defense last season, which ranked third in the MIAC. The Gusties led the league in fumble recoveries with 18.

Did You Know?

- The Gustavus defense has ranked in the top four in the MIAC each of the last three seasons in scoring defense.

Off the Field

- Senior defensive back Beau Bachman spent his summer as an athletic trainer for the Arkansas Travelers, a Class AA affiliate of Major League Baseball's Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim.



HAMLINE | [Pipers' football home page](#) |

Head coach

- Chad Rogosheske (First season)

A Year Ago

- 0-8 MIAC (Ninth place) | 1-9 Overall

Top Returners

- Austin Duncan (RB, So., 868 yards rushing, 10 pass receptions, 10 TDs total)
- Ryan Ferkinhoff (RB, Jr., 15 pass receptions, 138 yards rushing, only one fumble)
- Derek Wilson, DL, Sr., 38 tackles, 3 sacks, 1 INT)

Key Losses

- Kevin Ackerley (QB – injured and will serve as student coach this year, 588 yards passing, 370 rushing, was MIAC Offensive Player Of Week first week of last season)
- Patrick Page (LB, led team with 127 tackles, Def. Player Of Week once)
- John Broback (Punter, set school record and led league with 41.3 average)

By the Numbers

- 74: Number of players on roster first day of training camp

- 38: Number of first year and transfer players on training camp roster
- 5: Number of Coaches on staff who graduated from Hamline

Did You Know?

• HU will play a home night game for the second year in a row, September 21 against Carleton. Last year's home night game drew the largest HU home crowd in seven years. This year's game will also honor the school's last MIAC FB champion, the 1988 team. The head of that team, Dick Tressel, will be at that game but will be too busy to meet with old players. He is Carleton's Offensive Coordinator.

Off the Field

• Derek Wilson was named to the Capital One District 22 Academic All-American team last year. He and Patrick Chilton are the 2013 HU team captains.

SAINT JOHN'S | [Johnnies' football home page](#) |



Head coach

- Gary Fasching (First season)

A Year Ago

- 3-5 MIAC (Sixth place) | 5-5 Overall

Top Returners

- Kevin Battis (Sr., OL, 6-1, 280 | 2012 All-MIAC first team, 2013 BSN Preseason All-American, 2-time Academic All-MIAC honoree, started all 10 games at center in 2012, helped produce the MIAC's top passing offense (252.0 ypg.) and fourth-best offense (392.5 ypg.)
- Josh Bungum (So., WR, 5-9, 170 | Led SJU in catches (42), receiving yards (575) and receiving touchdowns (4) as a freshman last fall)
- Jake Essler (Sr., RB/RS, 5-9, 175 | Rushed for five touchdowns and totaled 637 on 39 kick and punt returns combined in 2012, averaged 13.4 yards on 20 punt returns)

Key Losses

- Bobby Fischer (DB | 2-time All-American at cornerback; ended the regular season as the MIAC's leader in interceptions (7) and pass breakups (8) for the second consecutive season; ended his career tied for fifth in school history with 14 interceptions while adding 76 tackles (49 solo), 4.5 tackles for loss and 21 pass breakups in 28 career games)
- Stephen Johnson (RB | Led the Johnnies in rushing for the second straight season with 469 yards and two touchdowns on 127 carries; started each of SJU's last 32 games at running back and ended his career fourth in school history in rushing attempts (517), sixth among running backs in receptions (80) and eighth in rushing yards (2,233)
- Jimmie Mattson (K | 2012 D3football.com All-America fourth team; ended the season as the MIAC's leader in points among kickers (70) and field goals (9), and finished second in PAT's, one from the league lead, with 43 on 43 attempts; averaged 63.3 yards on 57 kickoffs, including 33 touchbacks; ended his career second in school history in field goals (24), third in points among kickers (192) and fourth in PAT's (120), while registering six of the program's 10 longest field goals made; four of the six field goals were 49 yards or longer, including his school-record tying 52-yarder against St. Olaf in 2009)

By the Numbers

- 22,217: The span, in days, between games in which SJU will have been led by a head football coach not named John Gagliardi (Johnny "Blood" McNally on Nov. 8, 1952, at Gustavus Adolphus to Gary Fasching on Sept. 6, 2013, at Wisconsin-River Falls).
- 21: SJU's 2013 roster includes a combined 21 student-athletes from Arizona and California, including 13 new recruits.
- 2,313: Combined passing yards by a pair of returning quarterbacks in senior Connor Bruns (Baltimore, Md./Loyola Blakefield) and sophomore Nick Martin (Plymouth, Minn./Wayzata) in 2012; the first time in program history two Johnnies have thrown for over 1,000 yards each in a season. The two also combined for a 60.5 completion percentage and a 143.43 pass-efficiency rating last fall.

Did You Know?

• First-year head coach Gary Fasching's top three assistants are Johnnies and former or current head coaches. Defensive coordinator Jerry Haugen '76 begins his 38th season as an SJU assistant football coach in 2013. He was named the NCAA Division III Defensive Coordinator of the Year (American Football Monthly) in 2003 and has compiled a 683-583-5 (.539) career record in 36 seasons as the Johnnies' head baseball coach. He also served as head coach of the SJU hockey team for four seasons from 1977 to 1981. Co-defensive coordinator Brandon Novak '01 recently completed his ninth season as the Johnnies' head wrestling coach. He was named the MIAC Most Valuable Player as a linebacker in 1999 and a two-time, first-team All-America selection. New associate head coach/offensive coordinator Kurt Ramler '97 served as head football coach at Carleton for six seasons from 2006-11. He was named the MIAC Coach of the Year in 2008 after leading Carleton to a 7-3 record, its best season since 1992. Following three seasons as the Johnnies' starting quarterback, Ramler ended his career as the school's all-time leader in six passing categories before Alex Kofoed (2004-07) surpassed each mark. He was named the MIAC's Most Valuable Player, a Gagliardi Trophy finalist and an Academic All-American as a senior in 1996. Though not a head coach, Damien Dumonceaux '05, SJU's recruiting coordinator and defensive line coach, was the 2005 D3football.com National Defensive Player of the Year, MIAC Mike Stam Award recipient and a Gagliardi Trophy finalist.

Off the Field

- Senior running back Colin Moynihan (Edina, Minn.) was listed as a nominee for the 2013 Allstate American Football Coaches Association (AFCA) Good Works Team over the summer. He appeared in all 10 games for SJU last fall and averaged 5.4 yards per carry (157 yards on 29 carries) and scored four touchdowns. A two-time Academic All-MIAC honoree (min. 3.50 GPA), Moynihan is a management major with a 3.58 GPA. As a student at SJU, Moynihan has tutored students at Saint John's Preparatory School and underprivileged Somali children (ages 8-16) at La Cruz Community Center in St. Cloud. In high school, he volunteered at various soup kitchens and with Feed My Starving Children. Moynihan studied abroad in London during spring semester, 2013.



ST. OLAF | [Oles' football home page](#) |

Head coach

- Craig Stern (First Season)

A Year Ago

- 5-3 MIAC (T-4th place) | 7-3 Overall

Top Returners

- Stephen Asp (WR, Sr. | 2x All-MIAC first team... Led team in receptions (43), TDs (11))
- Alexander Hsu (OL, Sr. | All-MIAC)
- Jake Schmiesing (WR, Sr. | 2x All-MIAC second team... 31 receptions, nine TDs)

Key Losses

- Dan Dobson (QB | All-MIAC, 2,390 passing yards, 25 touchdowns, 6 INTs)
- Ben Dobson (DB | All-MIAC 1st team... 2nd on team in tackles, 3 INTs)
- Reggie Woods (DB | Led team with 4 interceptions, 45.5 tackles)

By the Numbers

- 19: St. Olaf has won 19 straight non-conference games, dating to 2004. The Oles play host to Northwestern on Sept. 7 before playing at Luther College on Sept. 14 in the program's two non-league games in 2013.
- 33: The Oles return players who scored 33 of the team's 37 touchdowns in 2012, led by RB Michael Thai (11), WR Stephen Asp (11) and WR Jake Schmiesing (9).
- 1: 2013 is the first year at the helm for head coach Craig Stern, who served as an assistant in the program since 2004.

Did You Know?

- St. Olaf has amassed a 24-11 record at Manitou Field since 2005. The Oles play four of their last six at home to close 2013.



ST. THOMAS | [Tommies' football home page](#) |

Head coach

- Glenn Caruso (Sixth season)

A Year Ago

- 8-0 MIAC (First place) | 14-1 Overall

In the 2012 Postseason

- Advanced to NCAA Division III Stagg Bowl title game. Defeated St. Norbert (48-17), Elmhurst (24-17), Hobart (47-7), UW-Oshkosh (28-14), lost to eventual national champion Mount Union (28-10)

Top Returners

- Matt O'Connell, JR, QB; 13-1 record as starter; 2012: 819 rushing yards, 22 TD passes, 5 TD runs
- Tremayne Williams, SR, OLB; All-America; 2012: 15 games, 70 tackles, 10 tackles for loss, four sacks, three forced fumbles, two interceptions, five break-ups, one fumble recovery
- Brenton Braddock, SO, RB; 16 TDs, 1,132 yards in 12 games

Key Losses

- Curtis James, Grad, Center; 2X All-America; team 50-5 in his era
- Ayo Idowu, Grad, DL, All-America; 28.5 TFL (13 sacks) on career
- Chinni Oji, Grad, CB; All-America; 8 career interceptions, started all 29 games last two seasons

By the Numbers

- 34-2: Tommie football home-field record in five seasons under Glenn Caruso, including NCAA-best mark of 9-0 in 2012
- 16: Players back with starting experience, including 10 selected first- or second-team All-MIAC in their careers
- 42: Number of 100-yard rushing performances by Tommie backs over last four seasons (55 games)

Did You Know?

- Out of 625 NCAA football programs, just three have won 11 or more games in each of the last four seasons: Boise State, Mount Union and St. Thomas.

Off the Field

- Last April, Tommie football players and coaches helped build a house on the eastside of St. Paul. Coach Glenn Caruso donated \$10,000 to Twin Cities' Habitat for Humanity from his funds received as Liberty Mutual's National Division III Coach of the Year.