2019 MIAC Men's Indoor Track & Field Championship Preview

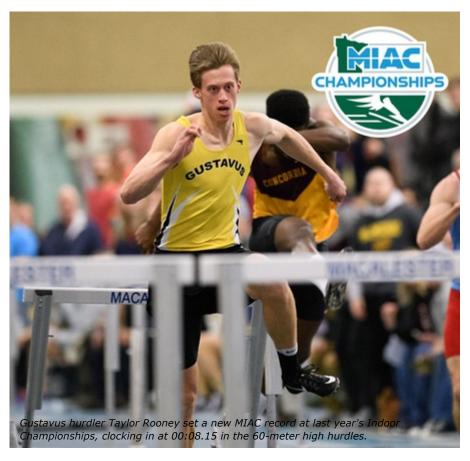
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BLOOMINGTON, Minn. – The Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) is set to open its 2019 Indoor Track and Field Championships on Thursday.

Eleven men's teams from around the MIAC will compete in the three-day meet held Thursday-Saturday at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn. The defending champion University of St. Thomas will look to keep its streak of 34 straight conference titles alive this weekend, while the rest of the league aims to end UST's run at the top.

The MIAC Indoor Track and Field Championships begin Thursday with the multi-event competitions. The women's pentathlon starts at 2:00 p.m. with the men's heptathlon beginning 20 minutes later. The heptathlon finishes up Friday morning at 10 a.m., with Friday's field events set to start at 2:30 p.m. and track to follow at 4:00 p.m. Saturday's final session starts with 11:00 a.m. field events and 1:00 p.m. track events.

Saturday's final event begins at 4:05 p.m., and there will be a short awards ceremony following the conclusion of the meet to honor both team champions. The top three individuals in each event and the first-place relay team will automatically earn All-Conference honors, and the 4th-through-6th place finishers in each open event and 2nd-through-6th place relay teams will all be named All-Conference Honorable Mention.



FOLLOW THE ACTION

The MIAC has a <u>homepage</u> dedicated to the 2019 Indoor Championships, complete with venue and admission information, <u>the event schedule</u>, entries, heat sheets and links to follow the action via <u>webcast</u> and <u>real-time results</u>. Results, recaps, and multimedia coverage of the Championships will be available throughout the event.

| HEPTATHLON PROGRAM | MEN'S PERFORMANCE LIST | MEN'S MEET PROGRAM |

KEEP AN EYE ON

Augsburg sophomore **Alex Bailey** has set a new personal-best in the high jump each of the last four weeks heading into the MIAC meet. He cleared six feet for the first time in his career over the weekend.

The Bethel 4x400 relay team of **Shawn Monroe**, **Isaac Erickson**, **Nolan Metz**, and **Carl Klamm** has the fourth-fastest time in NCAA Division III this year, thanks to a 03:15.86 at last Friday's Snowshoe Open. Klamm also ranks 14th in the nation in the 400 meters with a time of 00:48.73, set at the Darren Young Invitational earlier this month. Klamm won the event en route to earning MIAC Oustanding Track Athlete honors at the 2017 Indoor Championships and finished second in the 400 last year.

Carleton sophomore **Lucas Mueller** finished the 3,000 meters in 08:16.96 at January's Minnesota Open, the fifth-fastest time in Division III this season. Mueller was named the conference's Outstanding Track Athlete at last year's Indoor Championships after earning four All-Conference honors, including individual victories in the 1,000 and 3,000 meters.

Concordia's **Matt Bye** tallied a score of 4,701 in the heptathlon at the Bison Open to begin the month of February, a mark that remains 11th-best in Division III this season. Bye finished 10th in the hep as a sophomore last season.

Gustavus sophomore **Taylor Rooney** ranks eighth in D-III this season in the 60-meter hurdles after finishing the event in 00:08.14 at last week's Maverick Invite. Rooney set the MIAC meet record at last year's Indoor Championships with a time of 00:08.15.

Hamline senior **Eric Dols** recorded a weight throw of 63' 0.25" at Friday's Snowshoe Open, the eighth-best throw in Division III this season. Dols won the weight throw and finished third in the shot put at the 2018 Indoor Championships, earning Outstanding Field Athlete honors as a result.

Macalester senior **Andrew Smith** recorded a high jump of 6' 6.75" to open the month of February. That is the third-best indoor mark all-time at Macalester. Smith finished third in the event at the 2018 MIAC Indoor Championships.

Saint John's **Ryan Miller** clocked in at 00:06.93 in the 60-meter dash at the CSB-SJU Indoor Invite earlier this month. The time is a personal record for the sophomore speedster.

Saint Mary's senior **Desmond Steward** ranks among Division III's top-50 in a pair of events this winter. An All-Region performer in the triple jump last year, Steward lept 45' 11.25" in the event at the St. Thomas Showcase earlier this month, good for the 27th-best distance in D-III. He also ranks 48th in the country in the long jump, having jumped 22' 6.25" at December's season opener. Steward has placed second in the triple jump at the MIAC meet each of the last two seasons.

- St. Olaf senior **Nathan Kurtz-Enko** heaved the shot put 52' 5.5" at the Tostrud Classic on Saturday, his best throw of the season and the 18th-best in D-III this year. Kurtz-Enko took fifth in the event at the MIAC meet last year.
- St. Thomas senior **Eric Holst** logged a distance of 66' 1.75" in the weight throw at Saturday's Tostrud Classic, good for the third-longest heave in D-III. Fellow Tommie senior thrower **David Danhauer** ranks eighth in the shot put this year, having thrown 54' 4.5" at the Ted Nelson Classic earlier this month.