2022 MIAC Men's Outdoor Track & Field Championship Preview

Posted: May 11, 2022

WINONA, Minn. – The 2022 Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) Outdoor Track & Field Championships are set to get underway on Friday, as eleven men's teams from around the league will compete in the two-day meet held at Saint Mary's University in Winona, Minn.

| <u>2022 MIAC Outdoor Track & Field Championships</u> | <u>Video</u> | <u>Real-Time Results</u> |

The MIAC Outdoor Track & Field Championships officially kicked off last week with the men's decathlon and women's heptathlon competitions held at Carleton College. This weekend's action will begin on Friday afternoon with field events starting at 1:00 p.m. and track events beginning at 1:30 p.m. Saturday's events are scheduled for a noon start with the final set of events

- the women's and men's 4x400 relay - running at 4:55 p.m.



FOLLOW THE ACTION

The MIAC has a <u>homepage</u> dedicated to the 2022 Outdoor Track & Field Championships, complete with <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 and recaps of the Championships will be made available throughout the event.

General admission tickets are \$10 for adults and \$2 for students (with ID). Children ages 5 and under will be admitted free of charge. Tickets can be purchased at the venue.

| CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE | PERFORMANCE LIST | ACCEPTED ENTRIES |

HANDING OUT THE HARDWARE

MIAC championship plaques will be presented to the first-place women's and men's teams at the conclusion of the meet on Saturday afternoon. The conference is guaranteed to crown two new track & field champions this year, as the University of St. Thomas - which departed for NCAA Division I last July - had won nine straight men's outdoor championships and 36 of the 39 women's titles in conference history. In addition to team awards, the top three individuals in each event and the first-place relay team will automatically earn All-Conference honors, while the 4th-through-6th place finishers in each open event and 2nd-through-6th place relay teams will all be named Honorable Mention.

Individual awards will be voted on by coaches following the meet and will be announced - along with the complete list of All-Conference and honorable mention recipients - next week.

POLL TALK

Bethel is the highest-ranked MIAC men's team in the latest U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) <u>Track & Field Top 25 Rating Index</u>, released on May 10. The Royals are ranked 16th in the latest national poll.

Meanwhile, Saint John's leads all MIAC teams in the latest <u>USTFCCCA North Region Rankings</u>, landing at No. 7 in the region in the May 9 balloting. Three MIAC teams are ranked in the top-10, with the Johnnies at No. 7, Bethel at No. 8, and St. Olaf at No. 9.

NATIONAL NOTABLES

Bethel first-year <u>Jayson Ekiyor</u> (Dayton, Minn. | Providence Academy) ranks 12th in NCAA Division III this season with a 110-meter hurdles time of 14.47.

Bethel senior <u>Gabe Irons</u> (Lake Mills, Iowa) ranks second in NCAA Division III in the discus and sixth in the shot put this season. His best discus throw is 55.55m (182-03.00) while he topped out at 16.52m (54-02.50) in the shot put. He is also 19th in the hammer throw at 55.39m (181-09.00).

Bethel senior **Tyler Sealock** (Plymouth, Minn. | Osseo) ranks 19th in the nation with a 400-meter hurdles time of 53.65 this season.

Bethel senior <u>Joel Smith</u> (Shoreview, Minn. | Mounds View) has the third-fastest 400-meter hurdles time in NCAA Division III this season at 52.41.

Bethel senior Lukas Walton (Roseville, Minn. | Como Park) has the 11th-best decathlon score in D-III this year at 6,394.

The Royals' 4x400 relay team of <u>Jacob Parent</u> (New Richmond, Wis.), <u>Tyler Sealock</u> (Plymouth, Minn. | Osseo), <u>Lukas Walton</u> (Roseville, Minn. | Como Park), and <u>Joel Smith</u> (Shoreview, Minn. | Mounds View) has clocked the 16th-fastest time nationally in the event this year at 3:15.68.

Carleton senior <u>Stephen Lavey</u> (Cedar Grove, Wis. | Cedar Grove-Belgium) ranks eighth in D-III with a 10,000-meter time of 29:42.58 this season.

Concordia sophomore **Cooper Folkestad** (Wadena, Minn. | Wadena-Deer Creek) has the ninth-best shot put distance in Division III this season at 16.26m (53-04.25).

Concordia senior Cal Wright (Mora, Minn.) has the 12th-fastest 400-meter time in the nation this season at 47.80.

Gustavus junior <u>Josh Beiswanger</u> (Mankato, Minn. | East) ranks 22nd in the hammer throw this season with a distance of 55.04m (180-07.00).

Saint John's junior Brett Hague (Brainerd, Minn.) ranks tenth in Division III this year with a javelin throw distance of 60.83m (199-07.00).

Saint John's junior Maguire Petersen (Hutchinson, Minn.) has the fifth-best decathlon score in Division III this season at 6,677.

Saint John's junior <u>Michael Wallace</u> (Nassau, Bahamas | St. Anne's) ranks 19th in Division III for the triple jump this season with a mark of 14.56m (47-09.25).

St. Olaf junior <u>Lucas Kramarczuk</u> (Bloomington, Minn. | Jefferson) ranks 20th in Division III with a 110-meter hurdles time of 14.55 this season.

St. Olaf junior Stephen Peper (Chaska, Minn.) has the seventh-best decathlon score in Division III this season at 6,623.

DEFENDING THE CROWN

Saint John's junior <u>Maguire Petersen</u> (Hutchinson, Minn.) already successfully defended his conference championship in the decathlon with a multi-event victory last week. A handful of other reigning MIAC champions will be back in competition to defend titles won in 2021 as well.

Bethel senior **Gabe Irons** (Lake Mills, Iowa) won the discus last spring with a distance of 52.58m (172-06.00).

Bethel sophomore Jacob Parent (New Richmond, Wis.) won the 400-meter dash in his debut season last year, finishing in 47.98.

Bethel senior Joel Smith (Shoreview, Minn. | Mounds View) won the 2021 MIAC title in the 400 hurdles with a time of 52.10.

Saint John's senior **Ryan Miller** (Maple Grove, Minn. | Totino-Grace) is the three-time defending champion in the 100-meter dash, having won the event in 2018, 2019, and 2021. He ran a MIAC-record time of 10.39 in 2019.

St. Olaf junior <u>Stephen Peper</u> (Chaska, Minn.) is the defending conference champ in the high jump with a clearance of 2.07m (06-09.50) in 2021.

AROUND THE MIAC

Augsburg senior **Evan Bergemann** (Lake Crystal, Minn. | Lake Crystal-Wellcome Memorial) claimed the top spot in the javelin throw with a distance of 55.69m (182-08.00) at the Meet of the Unsaintly on 5/6.

Bethel senior **Lukas Walton** (Roseville, Minn. | Como Park) broke the program record in the decathlon by scoring 6,394 points and taking third overall at last week's MIAC Multis.

Carleton junior Henry Bowman (Lafayette, Colo. | Centaurus) was the Knights' top finisher at the Tommie Twilight on 5/4, finishing the 5,000-meter run in 15:10.79.

Concordia senior <u>Cal Wright</u> (Mora, Minn.) broke the Cobbers' program record in the 400 meters at the Ole Open on 5/7. His finishing time is also the fastest in the MIAC this season and the 12th fastest in NCAA Division III this year.

Gustavus sophomore <u>Isaiah Subah</u> (Bloomington, Minn. | Kennedy) had a personal best long jump of 6.99m at the Maverick Open on 5/4. He added a season-best triple jump distance of 13.15m at the Deb Schulz Open on 5/6.

Hamline senior <u>Christian Velishek</u> (New Prague, Minn.) earned three top-five results at the Meet of the UnSaintly on 5/6. His high jump distance of 2.00m (06-06.75) placed second overall at the meet and is tied for 27th in NCAA Division III this season. He also threw the javelin 45.53m to finish fifth and ran on the Pipers' 4x100 relay team that placed fifth in 44.58.

Macalester sophomore <u>Caleb Williams</u> (Wild Rose, Wis.) won the long jump at the Tommie Twilight on 5/4, setting a new personal record of 6.88m (22-07.00). The mark is also the sixth best in Macalester history. Williams also took second in the triple jump with a mark of 13.81m (45-03.75).

Saint John's junior **Brett Hague** won the javelin with a personal-best throw of 59.42m at the Johnnies' home meet on 4/29. The throw is the third-best distance in program history.

Saint Mary's first-year <u>Aidan Gatz</u> (Elburn, Ill. | Kaneland) cleared 5.45 meters to bring home first-place honors in the pole vault at the Meet of the UnSaintly on 5/6.

- St. Olaf junior <u>Stephen Peper</u> (Chaska, Minn.) broke the program record while finishing as the runner-up in the MIAC Decathlon last week. Peper earned 6,623 points over the two-day, 10-event competition.
- St. Scholastica first-year <u>Simon Sotiropoulos</u> (Melbourne, Australia | Marcellin College) captured his first collegiate event win at the Ole Open on 5/7, placing first in the javelin with a season-best toss of 139'11" (42.64m). Sotiropoulos was also fourth in the long jump with a season-best mark of 6.09m (19-11.75).

FOR THE RECORD

The MIAC Men's Outdoor Track & Field Record Book contains annual Conference championship information and MIAC overall and meet record-holders. The information included in the record book is based on available data and research for additional historical documents is ongoing.

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