David Rosenthal, St. Olaf

Burnsville, Minn. / Apple Valley



It was quite a week for the St. Olaf men's soccer team. The Oles - seeded No. 1 in the MIAC Men's Soccer Playoffs - captured the conference's postseason championship thanks to a pair of thrilling victories. Sophomore **David Rosenthal** (Burnsville, Minn./Apple Valley) not only played a huge part in both wins, but he set a new St. Olaf school record for goals in a season in the process. Thanks to his clutch Playoff performance, Rosenthal was named the final MIAC Men's Soccer Athlete-of-the-Week for the 2011 season.

Wednesday, Rosenthal helped the Oles start strong against No. 4 Augsburg assisting on the team's first goal and contributing to a 2-1 win to earn the right to host Saturday's title game. In the championship, Rosenthal and St. Olaf found themselves down 2-1 to rival Carleton in the second half, but that's when he took over. Rosenthal scored the game-tying goal to force overtime at the 65:11 mark. Then in the extra period, he gained control of the ball from about 30 yards out, took a few touches and fired the championship-winning shot in the lower left corner of the net. The two goals gave Rosenthal 14 for the season, which is a new Oles' record, and tied for the most in the MIAC this season. He also is tied for second in the league with eight assists, and leads all MIAC players with 36 points.

With the postseason title, Rosenthal and St. Olaf improved to 16-3-1 overall and secured an automatic bid to the 2011 NCAA Division III Men's Soccer Tournament. The Oles were the only MIAC team to receive a bid to the NCAA Tournament. They'll open the postseason Saturday with a first-round game against Carroll College (Wis.) in a four-team Regional in Decorah, Iowa. The winner will face the winner of Luther College and North Park University Sunday for a spot in the Sweet 16.

Leif Sundberg, Bethel

Mahtomedi, Minn. / Mahtomedi Week of: 2011-11-01



Every college senior hopes to end his career on top, and though the Bethel men's soccer team didn't qualify for the MIAC Playoffs, it's probably tough to find a better end to a career than the one **Leif Sundberg** (Mahotmedi, Minn.) enjoyed last week. Sundberg - the Royals' senior goalkeeper - recorded two shutouts last week with a total of 27 saves to end his career on an extreme high note. Dating back to the previous week, Sundberg didn't allow a goal over his final three college games, which included wins over both of the conference's co-champions. For his performance, Sundberg has been named the MIAC Men's Soccer Athlete-of-the-Week.

Sundberg started his big final week with a 16-save shutout in a 1-0 win over MIAC co-champion St. Olaf. he also faced nine corner kicks in the victory. For an encore, Sundberg stopped 11 shots, including a penalty kick and the rebound, in a double-overtime scoreless tie against St. Thomas to conclude his collegiate career. He faced 12 corner kicks in the tie against the Tommies. This season, Sundberg was among the MIAC's best keepers. He led the league in shutouts (seven) and saves (94) while ranking third in saves per game (6.27) and save percentage (.825) and eighth in goals against average (1.36).

The Royals' final surge helped them improve to 9-6-3 overall and 4-5-1 in MIAC play in the team's first season under Head Coach Jeremy Iwaszkowiec. Bethel had 13 points in conference play and finished seventh in the standings, three spots out of the playoffs. Sundberg and his teammates enjoyed a six-win turnaround overall and a three more wins in conference play than they accumulated in 2010.

Mike Hutton, St. Thomas

Burnsville, Minn. / Apple Valley Week of: 2011-10-25



St. Thomas stayed in contention for a spot in the 2011 MIAC Men's Soccer Playoffs with a big win over rival Saint John's, and a draw against nationally-ranked Gustavus last week. Leading the charge in both big performances was senior forward **Mike Hutton** (Burnsville, Minn./Apple Valley). Hutton had a pair of assists in the win over the Johnnies and the Tommies' lone goal in the tie with the Gusties. For his performance, Hutton has been named the MIAC Men's Soccer Athlete-of-the-Week.

Wednesday, Hutton's two assists set up goals that ended up being the difference in UST's 4-2 win over SJU. With the win, Hutton helped St. Thomas go 4-0 against Saint John's in his career. He came up big again on Saturday with the game's first goal, which look like it might stand up to give the Tommies and upset over Gustavus. However, the Gusties scored on a 76th-minute penalty kick and neither team could manage a goal the rest of the way in the 1-1 2OT tie. This season, Hutton is tied for seventh in the MIAC with seven goals, and his 18 points rank eighth in the conference. In his career, Hutton has 34 goals and 84 points, and St. Thomas is 22-5-2 when he scores a goal.

The Tommies used their 1-0-1 week to improve to 7-5-1 overall and 4-3-1 in the MIAC with 13 points in the conference standings. They currently sit sixth, two spots out of the playoffs, but a slim chance to still make the postseason field. UST wraps up the regular season this week with a 3:30 p.m. Tuesday game against conference-champion hopeful Carleton at home, and Saturday it ends its campaign with a 3:30 p.m. road contest at Bethel.

Tim Wills, Carleton

Portland, Ore. / Catholic Central Week of: 2011-10-18



The Carleton men's soccer team won a pair of close games last week to remain atop the MIAC standings as the only team without a loss in conference play. Senior **Tim Wills** (Portland, Ore./Central Catholic) led the way, has he has all season, by contributing to all four of the Knights' goals in the two victories. He scored both goals - including the overtime game-winner - against Saint Mary's, and followed by assisting on both of Carleton's goals in a win over Hamline. For his performance, Wills has been named the MIAC Men's Soccer Athlete-of-the-Week for the second time this season, and it is the third week in a row a Carleton player has claimed the honor.

In Wednesday's win over Saint Mary's, Wills scored the first goal of the game in the 54th minute. Then after the Cardinals tied the score and forced overtime, he delivered the game winner with a close-range shot with time winding down in the first overtime period. He followed that up by assisting on the only two goals in Carleton's 2-0 win over Hamline Saturday, setting up the game-winner in the 83rd minute with a perfect through ball, and then he assisted on an insurance score six minutes later on a give-and-go. Wills' big week padded his status as Carleton's all-time leader in goals (32), assists (31) and points (95), and this season he has seven goals and four assists for 18 points, and he ranks in the top eight in the MIAC in all three categories.

The Knights have four overall games left and three MIAC matches in its quest for a conference title and playoff berth. Tuesday, they'll host Ripon at 4 p.m. in nonconference action and Saturday they'll travel to Arden Hills to face Bethel in a 2:30 p.m. conference match. Carleton will wrap up the regular season next week with matches against St. Thomas and St. Olaf.

Simon Ginet, Carleton

Arlington, Mass. / Arlington Week of: 2011-10-11



Most college freshmen soccer players spend their first season adapting to a new level play and figuring out where they fit in. However, Carleton's **Simon Ginet** (Arlington, Mass.) did much more than that last week as he led the Carleton men's team to a pair of huge wins. Ginet tied a school record with three assists in a 6-1 win over Northwestern, and he followed that up with his first collegiate goal, which just happened to be the game-winning goal in the Knights' 1-0 win over 15th-ranked Augsburg. For his huge week, Ginet has been named the MIAC Men's Soccer Athlete-of-the-Week.

Ginet showed off his playmaking ability in last Tuesday's 6-1 nonconference win against Northwestern by setting up Carleton's first three goals in the win, including the game winner at the 55:58 mark which broke a 1-1 tie. However, Ginet's biggest play of the week came Saturday. After more than 82 scoreless minutes, Ginet stole the ball from the Auggie defense and slotted home the game-winning goal at 82:40 to give Carleton the huge conference win, and hand Augsburg its first MIAC loss of 2011. It also snapped Augsburg's home win streak, which had reached 17-straight.

The two wins helped Carleton improve to 7-3-2 overall this season, and the Knights currently sit atop the MIAC standings with a 4-0-1 conference record. Carleton's 13 points are tied for the most in the league with Gustavus. The Knights will face two important MIAC home games this week when Saint Mary's visits Northfield Wednesday for a 4 p.m. contest, and Hamline travels to Carleton for a 1 p.m. MIAC match on Saturday.

Tim Wills, Carleton

Portland, Ore. / Central Catholic Week of: 2011-10-04



All at once, Carleton's **Tim Wills** (Portland, Ore./Central Catholic) helped his team strengthen its current quest for a MIAC championship, and he further cemented his legacy as one of the Knights' all-time men's soccer greats last week. Wills scored three goals in three games, helping Carleton go 1-0-1 and remain in second place in the conference standings, and in the process he became Carelton's career leader in goals scored. For his performance and his career milestone, Wills has been named the MIAC Men's Soccer Athlete-of-the-Week.

Wills started his huge week by scoring the game-winning goal Wednesday in a 3-1 win over defending MIAC regular season champion Macalester with four shots and four shots on goal. Wills followed with five shots - two on goal - Saturday as the Knights played 12th-ranked Gustavus to a 0-0, double-overtime tie. Wills capped things off by scoring both the record-tying and record-breaking goals Sunday in Carleton's 6-1 win over Cornell. Wills now has 29 career goals, and is also the Knights' all-time leader in assists (29) and points (87). This season, Wills ranks first in the MIAC in shots (41) and shots per game (4.1) and is tied for seventh in points (10) and goals (four).

The Knights used their big week to improve to 5-3-2 overall, and they remain unbeaten and alone in second place in the MIAC with a 3-0-1 record. This week, Carleton opens its week by hosting Northwestern in a nonconference match Tuesday at 4 p.m. before heading into another crucial MIAC matchup. Saturday, the Knights travel to Minneapolis for a 7 p.m. showdown with first-place Augsburg under the lights.

Peter Osborn, Augsburg

Eagan, Minn. / Eastview Week of: 2011-09-27



The Augsburg men's soccer team has been the talk of the MIAC thus far in 2011, unbeaten after seven games and atop the conference standings with a 3-0 record. The Auggies are coming off their biggest week to date with a pair of 1-0 wins over conference contenders Macalester and St. Thomas. Leading the way was senior midfielder **Peter Osborn** (Eagan, Minn./Eastview), who played every minute and contributed in all phases of the game, helping to direct the Augsburg offense and shut down the opposing teams' top scorers. For his contributions to his team's big week, Osborn has been named the MIAC Men's Soccer Athlete-of-the-Week.

Though the goalie often gets the most credit for a shutout, the Auggies would have certainly had a tougher time keeping Macalester and St. Thomas off the scoreboard without Osborn in the lineup. He drew the assignment of shutting down high-scoring stars Taylor Rasumussen from the Scots and Mike Hutton from the Tommies, and the result was two shutouts and two Augsburg wins. Rasmussen managed just one shot on goal in their matchup, and Hutton had just two shots and none on goal. Osborn also helped direct the Auggie offense from the midfield, and contributed one strong scoring chance against Macalester, with his shot hitting the crossbar from 30 yards out. Augsburg Head Coach Greg Holker says Osborn has arguably been the Auggies' best player, and he certainly was their leader during last week's important stretch.

Augsburg, which is 6-0-1 this season, hasn't allowed a goal in five of its seven contests. The Auggies look to continue their strong start with a big conference game Tuesday. Saint John's comes to Minneapolis to face Augsburg on its home field at 7:30 p.m. The Auggies also will hit the road this weekend for a pair of nonconference contests - Friday at Loras at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at UW-Platteville at noon.

Taylor Rasmussen, Macalester

Eagan, Minn. / Eastview Week of: 2011-09-20



Defending MIAC men's soccer champion Macalester College has found itself in a number of close games already this season, and in those times the Scots are glad that junior forward **Taylor Rasmussen** (Eagan, Minn./Eastview) is on their side. Rasmussen scored a pair of goals last week, and each one proved to be the game-winner, as Macalester defeated Saint John's in its MIAC opener and won a nonconference game against Carroll College. For his clutch performances, Rasmussen has been named the MIAC Men's Soccer Player-of-the-Week.

On Wednesday, the Scots opened its title defense against the Jonnies, and Rasmussen's active play led to the game's only goal in the 1-0 Macalester win. Just after halftime, Rasmussen took a crossing pass through the middle and buried for a 45th-minute goal, which wound up being the difference. His clutch scoring returned on Friday when he scored the eventual game-winner just before the halftime buzzer. He got out on a breakaway and cashed in for a 44th-minute goal that would ultimately be the winner in the Scots' 3-1 victory over Carroll. Rasmussen, an All-MIAC and All-Region pick in 2010, ranks in the top six in the MIAC in most offensive categories in 2011, including goals (T-4th, 4) and game-winning goals (T-1st, 3).

Rasmussen and the Scots are currently sitting at .500, 3-3 overall, with a 1-0 mark in conference play. This week, they'll face two big challenges in conference play with a home game against defending MIAC Playoff champion Augsburg Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., and a trip across town Sunday to face Hamline in another conference contest at 1 p.m.

Chris Williams, Saint Mary's

Chicago, Ill. / St. Patrick Week of: 2011-09-13



Goalkeepers head into every game hoping for one thing -the opponents' zero to still be on the scoreboard when the final horn sounds. By that standard, Saint Mary's senior **Chris Williams** (Chicago, Ill./St. Patrick) had a perfect week in goal for the Cardinals, securing his first two collegiate shutouts while helping his team to a 1-0-1 record in their two games last week. Williams used a 0.00 goals against average and a 1.000 save percentage to not only help his team go unbeaten, but his performance has also resulted in his selection as the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) Men's Soccer Athlete-of-the-Week.

Williams had to work extra time to notch his first collegiate shutout last Tuesday against North Central. He stopped all three shots he faced and kept the opponents' scoreless throughout the 0-0 double overtime tie. He followed that up by earning his second shutout and first collegiate win in goal with a five-save effort in Saint Mary's 1-0 win over Grinnell on Saturday. This season, Williams has stopped 18 of the 23 shots he has faced in goal while accumulating a 1.13 goals against average.

Overall, Williams and the Cardinals are 1-2-1 this season with both losses coming by a single goal, including one in double overtime. SMU will open MIAC play Wednesday when it travels to St. Paul to square off with St. Thomas for a 4 p.m. start. The Cardinals will host their MIAC home opener Saturday when St. Olaf comes to Winona for a 1 p.m. start.

David Kim, Bethel

Blaine, Minn. / Spring Lake Park Week of: 2011-09-06



The Bethel men's soccer team started a new era in dramatic fashion this week, and it appears new coach Jeremy Iwaszkowiec has a good late-game strategy: get the ball to junior midfielder **David Kim** (Blaine, Minn./Spring Lake Park). Kim helped the Royals - and his new coach - start the 2011 season 2-0 by scoring the game-winning goal in each match. For his goal-scoring heroics and his team's hot start, Kim has been named the inaugural MIAC Men's Soccer Athlete-of-the-Week of the 2011 season.

The Royals' started their season and opened the Iwaszkowiec era with a 1-0 win over Buena Vista in Storm Lake, Iowa, thanks to Kim's goal in the 26th minute of play. His second game-winner in as many days was much more dramatic. The Royals took a 1-0 lead in the 67th minute against Bethany Lutheran on Saturday when they connected on a corner kick. However, Bethany Lutheran tied the game in the 70th minute and the game remained tied into double overtime. That's when Kim struck again, with a goal in the 117th minute to give his team the win and an unbeaten start thus far. Over the two games, Kim has 10 shots, three shots on goal and two goals.

Kim and the Royals will try to continue their winning ways with another road nonconference match - Tuesday at Crown at 5 p.m. - before hosting a pair of nonconference contests on their home field this weekend. Bethel will host Simpson Friday at 4 p.m. and Whitman Saturday at 4:30 p.m. on its campus in Arden Hills.