

2012 MIAC Softball Awards

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ST. PAUL, Minn. -- The Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) announced its 2012 Softball Awards Thursday and, after battling at the top of the standings throughout the season, league champ St. Thomas and runner-up Gustavus swept the top individual awards.



The Tommies again proved to be the class of the MIAC in 2012, with three of the conference's four major awards to show for it. Junior second baseman **Kimmy Hassel** (Bloomington, Ill./Normal) was honored as the Player-of-the-Year, rookie hurler **Kendra Bowe** (Chippewa Falls, Wis.) received Pitcher-of-the-Year honors and Head Coach **John Tschida** received the Coach-of-the-Year award. Gustavus pitcher **Sarah Rozell** was awarded with the MIAC's Rookie-of-the-Year award following her breakout season.

Hassel led not only St. Thomas, but the entire conference, in almost every major hitting category to lead UST to the MIAC title and earn the league's top individual award in 2012. The Tommies' second baseman ranked first in hitting (.487), runs (46), RBI (41), hits (75) and total bases (108) while also ranking in the top three in on-base percentage (.527), slugging percentage (.701) and stolen bases (17).

Hitting from the No. 3 spot in the St. Thomas lineup, Hassel was even better against conference foes. The star junior hit above .500 in MIAC play to lead the league at .513, and also finished first in runs (28), RBI (23), and hits (39), while ranking second in on-base percentage (.554), total bases (65) and stolen bases (14) and third in slugging percentage (.737).

Bowe was Hassel's equivalent on the mound in 2012, with a breakout rookie season to lead St. Thomas to the MIAC regular season and Playoff titles. In overall games, Bowe claimed the MIAC's pitching triple crown, leading the league in wins (22-3), ERA (1.33) and strikeouts (165), while also ranking first in opponent average (.179) and shutouts (four). Her 158.1 innings pitched ranked third in the league.

In 2012, Bowe was a perfect 12-0 to rack up the most wins of any pitcher in conference play, as she also led the MIAC in strikeouts (96) and opponent average (.177). In league games, Bowe ranked second in ERA (1.06), tied for third with two shutouts and sixth with 79.1 innings pitched.

This is the second-straight MIAC Coach-of-the-Year award for Tschida, his 10th overall MIAC coaching honor and his sixth at St. Thomas. Tschida's 2012 team lived up to its usual high standards, going 37-9 overall, winning the MIAC regular-season title with a near-perfect 21-1 record and claiming its ninth-straight MIAC Playoff title.

The conference championship was the 18th overall for UST, third in a row and 11th in the last 13 seasons to continue a dynasty of excellence. St. Thomas reached the NCAA Division III Softball regional tournament again in 2012. Tschida added his second-straight Coach-of-the-Year award to get to double-digit career honors after winning it four-straight times from 2004 to 2007, and four times in a row as Saint Mary's head coach from 1995 to 1999.

Despite all of St. Thomas' success, the Tommies had to hold off Gustavus every step of the way, as MIAC Rookie-of-the-Year Rozell led the Gusties to a 33-10 overall record, 20-2 conference mark and runner-up finishes in both the regular season and playoffs. Rozell dazzled on the mound in her collegiate debut season, ranking second behind Bow in wins (17-4), ERA (1.76) and strikeouts (112) while leading the league in saves (two) and finishing third in shutouts (three) and opponent average (.242) in overall games.

As good as Rozell was overall, she was even better in MIAC play, leading the league with a miniscule 0.80 ERA, and finishing second in wins with a perfect 11-0, as well as second in strikeouts (60) and opponent average (.187). Her three shutouts in conference play led the MIAC, and she was seventh with 78.2 innings pitched.

In addition to Rozell's honor for the Gusties, senior Lisa Klass joined elite company by earning her fourth-straight All-Conference award. Klass headlined a group of five players who earned multiple All-MIAC honors, as her teammate Kate Rentschler, Hamline's Bethany Hine, Macalester's Cleo Nagy and St. Catherine's Alyssa Luedtke were each selected for the second-straight season.

The conference champion Tommies led the way with five All-MIAC selections, all underclassmen who will be back to help UST next season. Gustavus was next with four All-Conference honorees, and Augsburg, Saint Mary's, Bethel and Saint Benedict had two players honored apiece. Carleton, Concordia, Hamline, Macalester and St. Catherine each had one player named to the All-Conference team.

There was a major youth movement in the MIAC this season, as 20 of the 22 players will still have eligibility in 2013. Two seniors, eight juniors, seven sophomores and five freshmen made up the first team. In addition, 16 players were named to the MIAC All-Conference Honorable Mention team.

As part of a conference-wide sportsmanship initiative, the MIAC announced the sixth annual All-MIAC Sportsmanship team for softball. Members of the All-MIAC Sportsmanship team are selected by their coaches and teammates as individuals who demonstrate ideals of positive sportsmanship both on and off the field of competition.

2012 MIAC Softball Awards

Player-of-the-Year - Kimmy Hassel, St. Thomas (Jr., Bloomington, Ill./Normal)

Pitcher-of-the-Year - Kendra Bowe, St. Thomas (Fy., Chippewa Falls, Wis.)

Rookie-of-the-Year - Sarah Rozell (Fy., Lakeville, Minn./North)

Coach-of-the-Year - John Tschida, St. Thomas (12th season)

2012 MIAC All-Conference

Name	Team	Year	Position	Hometown/Previous School
Lexi Alm	Saint Benedict	So.	OF	Stacy, Minn./Forest Lake
Kendra Bowe	St. Thomas	Fy.	P	Chippewa Falls, Wis.
Rachel Gilbert	Bethel	Jr.	C/OF	Becker, Minn.
Emily Gregory	St. Thomas	So.	C	Prior Lake, Minn.
Kimmy Hassel	St. Thomas	Jr.	2B	Bloomington, Ill./Normal
Bethany Hine	Hamline	Jr.	CF/SS	Carver, Minn./Chaska
Jenna Hoffman	St. Thomas	So.	SS	Eagan, Minn./Cretin-Derham Hall
Lisa Klass	Gustavus	Sr.	2B	Richfield, Minn.
Alyssa Luedtke	St. Catherine	So.	OF	Spring Lake Park, Minn.
Kailey Morgan	Gustavus	Fy.	1B	Mound, Minn./Orono
Rachel Nelson	Saint Benedict	So.	P	Lindstrom, Minn./Chisago Lakes
Cleo Nagy	Macalester	So.	OF	Eugene, Ore./Henry D. Sheldon
Kylee Persing	Augsburg	Sr.	P/3B	Mound, Minn./Mound-Westonka
Tisa Phinney	St. Thomas	So.	OF	Forest Lake, Minn.
Alex Raske	Saint Mary's	Fy.	C/OF	Chicago, Ill./Mother McAuley
Kate Rentschler	Gustavus	Jr.	P	Lakefield, Minn./Jackson County Central
Sarah Rozell	Gustavus	Fy.	P	Lakeville, Minn./North
Allyson Ruedy	Augsburg	Jr.	SS	Waseca, Minn.
Kaia Sele	Concordia	Jr.	1B	Bemidji, Minn.
Kalyn Sorenson	Bethel	Fy.	3B	Maple Grove, Minn./Osseo
Erin Stenseth	Saint Mary's	Jr.	INF	Eau Claire, Wis./North
Chelsea Yost	Carleton	Jr.	P/INF	Bemidji, Minn.

2012 MIAC Honorable Mention All-Conference

Name	Team	Year	Position	Hometown/Previous School
Jenna Brady	St. Catherine	So.	SS	Greenfield, Minn./Providence Academy
Brittany Brenke	Gustavus	So.	CF	Le Sueur, Minn./Le Sueur-Henderson
Alyssa Dunrud	St. Thomas	Jr.	P/2B/OF	Forest Lake, Minn.
Jessica Green	St. Olaf	So.	P	Scottsdale, Ariz./Horizon
Melanie Hamilton	Saint Mary's	Fy.	OF	Homewood, Ill./Homewood-Flossmoor
Kesley Jones	Concordia	Sr.	P/3B	Billings, Mont./West
Joelle Link	Concordia	Jr.	P/OF	Hardin, Mont.
Cristina Masten	Bethel	So.	C	Fergus Falls, Minn.
Shelby Nosan	Gustavus	Fy.	SS	Baudette, Minn./Lake of the Woods
Hailey Ohl	Saint Mary's	Jr.	INF	Bloomington, Minn./Kennedy
Kayla Peterson	Saint Mary's	Jr.	P	Lewiston, Minn./Lewiston-Altura
Amy Prok	St. Olaf	Jr.	P/OF	Delano, Minn.
Jenny Ramey	Carleton	So.	INF	Cottage Grove, Minn./New Life Academy
Laura Randall	Hamline	Jr.	UTIL	Fridley, Minn./Spring Lake Park
Maggie Scholer	St. Olaf	Jr.	C	Norwalk, Iowa
Miranda Stokes	Macalester	Fy.	P/OF	Perry, Utah/Box Elder

2012 All-MIAC Sportsmanship Team

Augsburg - Sammie Wagner (Sr., Stillwater, Minn.)

Bethel - Rachel Gilbert (Jr., Becker, Minn.)

Carleton - Dana Mackey (Sr., Hingham, Mass.)

Concordia - Emily Salo (Sr., New York Mills, Minn.)

Gustavus - Dee Dee Arnold (Sr., Grand Rapids, Minn.)

Hamline - Jessica Churchill (Sr., Duluth, Minn./Central)

Macalester - Amanda Knopf (Sr., Boulder, Colo.)

Saint Benedict - Sierra Dooley (Sr., Spring Lake Park, Minn.)

St. Catherine - Larrissa Karl (Fr., Buffalo Lake, Minn./Buffalo Lake-Hector-Stewart)

Saint Mary's - Hailey Ohl (Jr., Lewiston, Minn./Lewiston-Altura)

St. Olaf - Kayla Gronli (Sr., Brooklyn Park, Minn./Champlin Park)
St. Thomas - Christy Gries (Sr., Sioux Falls, S.D./Lincoln)