

# Bethel's Jackson headlines 2015 MIAC Softball Awards

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BLOOMINGTON, Minn. -- The 2015 Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) softball season was full of surprises, parity and plenty of unforgettable games and moments. Tuesday, the top performers from that season were honored with the announcement of the 2015 MIAC Softball Awards, which were headlined by two-time MIAC Player-of-the-Year Angie Jackson of Bethel University.

Jackson (Sr., Oakdale, Minn. / North St. Paul) closed her career with a second Player-of-the-Year honor after also earning the conference's top honor in 2013. Gustavus senior pitcher Sarah Rozell (Lakeville, Minn. / North) added to her awards haul with the MIAC Pitcher-of-the-Year honor. St. Catherine's Krista Flugstad (Bloomington, Minn. / Jefferson) received the MIAC Rookie-of-the-Year award in honor of her breakout season and Hamline's Jim Rubbelke was voted the MIAC Coach-of-the-Year by his peers after guiding the Pipers to a record-setting season.



In addition to the top individual honors, the MIAC also announced the 2015 All-Conference team, the All-Conference Honorable Mention selections, and the All-MIAC Sportsmanship Team.

This time, Jackson's Player-of-the-Year award came after she led Bethel to its first-ever MIAC regular-season title, as the Royals went 18-4 in conference play (28-15 overall) to capture the title. Jackson overcame an early-season injury to appear near the top of each offensive category in conference games, as she ranked first in runs (33) and total bases (58), second in hits (34), home runs (six) and batting average (.442) and third in on-base percentage (.506) and slugging percentage (.753) and also had 16 RBI and six doubles.

Overall, the Bethel shortstop appeared in 31 games with a .394 batting average, six home runs, 37 runs scored and 20 RBI. Despite missing 12 games, Jackson still ranked sixth in the MIAC in runs and eighth in home runs in overall games. Her second Player-of-the-Year honor comes with her third-straight All-MIAC selection as well to close the book on one of the greatest careers ever by a Royals' player.

Rozell added her MIAC Pitcher-of-the-Year award to her MIAC Playoffs MVP award and All-Tournament Team selection after pitching the Gusties to their first-ever conference tournament title. Rozell helped Gustavus finish 34-16 overall and third in the MIAC regular season with a 16-6 record. In conference play, she went 7-1 in 10 starts with a conference-best 1.24 ERA. In 62 innings she allowed just 11 earned runs on 59 hits and had just six walks against 39 strikeouts. MIAC batters hit just .239 against Rozell in 2015. She only allowed six extra-base hits in conference play - one home run and five doubles.

Overall, Rozell was 13-7 with a 2.52 ERA in 21 starts and 28 appearances. She had 10 completed games, and ranked second in the MIAC with four complete-game shutouts. In the 2015 MIAC Playoffs, Rozell was 2-0 and didn't allow an earned run over 8.1 innings, including a one-hit shutout in the semifinals. She also earned her third career All-MIAC honor, after also receive All-Conference accolades in each of her first two seasons (2012, 2013).

Flugstad's breakout season and Rookie-of-the-Year honor coincided with a breakthrough season for the Wildcats, who finished 28-10 overall and 15-7 in MIAC play, in fifth place and just one game out of the postseason. Flugstad starred on the mound and in the batter's box, as she was 8-4 with the league's second-best ERA (1.32) and hit .388 in conference play. In MIAC games only, her 84 strikeouts ranked second in the league, her three shutouts ranked fourth and she allowed just 15 earned runs over 79.2 innings pitched and opponents batted just .214 against her.

Overall, Flugstad's 1.50 ERA ranked No. 1 in the MIAC, and she finished 14-6 with 146 strikeouts to rank second in both Ks and victories. Opposing batters hit just .209 (sixth) against Flugstad and her four shutouts tied for second in the league as well. Overall, she hit .382 with two home runs, 14 RBI and eight runs scored. Flugstad earned All-Conference honors in addition to her rookie award.

Rubbelke received the MIAC Coach-of-the-Year award in his eighth season after a record-setting season at Hamline. His team went 17-5 in conference play to finish second - just a game behind Bethel - with the best finish in school history. Overall, the Pipers finished 27-13 and were the No. 2 seed in the MIAC Playoffs, and the 27 wins are just one shy of the school's single-season record.

This season, Hamline ranked third in the MIAC in conference play in hitting with a .320 team average and also finished second in hits (205), third in runs (122), doubles (39), RBI (106), and fourth in extra-base hits (47), and on-base percentage (.368). On the mound, the Pipers had the fourth-best ERA (2.21) in conference play. Overall, Rubbelke's team had a .312 team batting average (third in MIAC), and the fifth-best team ERA of 2.89. He coaches two players - including his daughter Jamie - to All-Conference honors, and two more to All-Conference Honorable Mention accolades.

St. Thomas pitcher Kendra Bowe completed her stellar career with a fourth-straight All-Conference honor. Jackson and Saint Benedict's Kim Lidstone each earned their third-straight All-MIAC selection, and it was also the third honor for Rozell and Saint Mary's Alex Raske, who were both named All-Conference in 2012, 2013 and 2015. It marked the second-straight All-MIAC nods for Bethel's Kelsey Anderson and

Caroline Kivisto, Gustavus' Hannah Heacox and Shelby Nosan, Hamline's Jamie Rubbelke, and Macalester's Sasa Wilson, and it was also the second career honor for both Bethel's Karli Persson (2013) and Gustavus' Kailey Morgan (2012).

MIAC champion Bethel led the way with four All-Conference selections, and both Gustavus and St. Thomas equaled that number as the MIAC Playoff champion and NCAA at-large qualifier also had four players honored. St. Catherine and Saint Mary's each had three selections, Hamline had two, and Saint Benedict, Carleton, St. Olaf, Macalester and Concordia had one All-Conference player each. The team included 10 seniors, six juniors, five sophomores and four first-year players.

All players who were nominated for All-Conference and received at least one vote, but were not among the top 22 vote getters (including ties) were named Honorable Mention.

As part of a conference-wide sportsmanship initiative, the MIAC announced the ninth 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.

## 2015 MIAC SOFTBALL AWARDS

**Player-of-the-Year** - Angie Jackson, Bethel (Sr., SS, Oakdale, Minn. / North St. Paul  
**Pitcher-of-the-Year** - Sarah Rozell, Gustavus (Sr., P, Lakeville, Minn. / North)  
**Rookie-of-the-Year** - Krista Flugstad, St. Catherine (Fy., P/IF, Bloomington, Minn. / Jefferson)  
**Coach-of-the-Year** - Jim Rubbelke, Hamline (Seventh season)

## 2015 MIAC SOFTBALL ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Hometown / High School</u>
Kelsey Anderson	Bethel	Sr.	IF	Burnsville, Minn
Jessica Bentley	St. Olaf	Fy.	P/OF	Edina, Minn. / Edina
Ashley Betzold	Saint Mary's	So.	P/IF	Farmington, Minn.
Kendra Bowe	St. Thomas	Sr.	P	Chippewa Falls, Wis.
Cassie Clarke	Carleton	So.	IF	Edina, Minn.
Mary-Clare Couillard	Hamline	So.	IF	Fridley, Minn. / St. Anthony Village
Katie Jo Delisle	St. Thomas	Jr.	1B/P	Waterville, Minn. / Mound-Westonka
Krista Flugstad	St. Catherine	Fy.	P/IF	Bloomington, Minn. / Jefferson
Hannah Heacox	Gustavus	So.	P	Stillwater, Minn.
Angie Jackson	Bethel	Sr.	SS	Oakdale, Minn. / North Saint Paul
Caroline Kivisto	Bethel	Jr.	C	Dassel, Minn. / Dassel-Cokato
Kim Lidstone	Saint Benedict	Jr.	IF	Minnetonka, Minn. / Hopkins
Megan Lindenfelser	St. Catherine	Fy.	P/UT	Nowthen, Minn. / Anoka
Madison Little	Concordia	So.	OF	Fargo, N.D. / Shanley
Kailey Morgan	Gustavus	Sr.	IF	Mound, Minn. / Orono
Shelby Nosan	Gustavus	Sr.	IF	Baudette, Minn. / Lake of the Woods
Karli Persson	Bethel	Jr.	P	Albany, Minn.
Bianca Peterson	St. Thomas	Sr.	OF	Hopkins, Minn.
Alex Raske	Saint Mary's	Sr.	C/IF	Chicago, Ill. / Mother McAuley
Robyn Rohr	St. Catherine	Jr.	C/IF	Lakeville, Minn. / North
Sarah Rozell	Gustavus	Sr.	P	Lakeville, Minn. / North
Jamie Rubbelke	Hamline	Jr.	IF	North St. Paul, Minn.
Stanzy Snyder	Saint Mary's	Fy.	OF	Johnston, Iowa
McKenzie Wergin	St. Thomas	Sr.	IF	Longmont, Colo. / Silver Creek
Sasa Wilson	Macalester	Sr.	SS	Olathe, Kan. / Northwest

## 2015 MIAC SOFTBALL ALL-CONFERENCE HONORABLE MENTION

<u>Name</u>	<u>Schools</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Hometown / High School</u>
Casey Anderson	Hamline	So.	P/IF	Robbinsdale, Minn. / Cooper
Stephanie Borndale	St. Olaf	Jr.	IF	St. Paul, Minn. / Hill-Murray
Annie Boyer	St. Thomas	Sr.	P	Corte Madera, Calif. / Redwood
Paige Breneman	Gustavus	Sr.	UT	Sherburn, Minn. / Martin County West
Michaela Bruns	St. Catherine	Fy.	C/IF	Elk River, Minn.

Megan Dupuis	St. Thomas	Sr.	IF	Plymouth, Minn. / Wayzata
Bekka Kelly	Augsburg	Sr.	OF/IF	Columbia Heights, Minn.
Carly Klass	Gustavus	Sr.	IF	Richfield, Minn.
Bailey O'Hotto	Saint Benedict	Fy.	OF	Baxter, Minn. / Brainerd
Amanda Orrell	Hamline	Jr.	OF	Santa Maria, Calif. / Pioneer Valley
Jenna Orth	Augsburg	Jr.	SS	Melrose, Minn.
Brooke Paradise	St. Olaf	So.	OF	Mantorville, Minn. / Kasson-Mantorville
Melissa Seldon	Saint Benedict	So.	OF	Rosemount, Minn.
Kalyn Sorenson	Bethel	Jr.	IF	Maple Grove, Minn. / Osseo
Miranda Stokes	Macalester	Sr.	P/OF	Perry, Utah / Box Elder
Ashley Tibbetts	Concordia	Sr.	IF	Brainerd, Minn.
Micaela Trainor	St. Thomas	Jr.	C	Winona, Minn. / Cotter
Sara Wennerstrand	Saint Benedict	Fy.	C	Baxter, Minn. / Brainerd

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## 2015 SOFTBALL ALL-MIAC SPORTSMANSHIP TEAM

Augsburg - Jenna Orth (Jr., Melrose, Minn.)  
 Bethel - Brooke Charleston (Sr., Runnells, Iowa / Southeast Polk)  
 Carleton - Molly Steinberg (Fy., Santa Monica, Calif. / Harvard Westlake)  
 Concordia - Taylor Rasmussen (So., Sabin, Minn. / Moorhead)  
 Gustavus - Addy Nelsen (Jr., Willmar, Minn.)  
 Hamline - Kelsey McWilliams (Jr., Bloomington, Minn. / Kennedy)  
 Macalester - Maddy Jasper (Sr., Corona, Calif. / Santiago)  
 Saint Benedict - Emma Steck (Sr., Kansas City, Mo. / St. Theresa's Academy)  
 St. Catherine - Donielle Kurvers (Jr., Monticello, Minn.)  
 Saint Mary's - Katie Krull (Jr., Rochester, Minn. / John Marshall)  
 St. Olaf - Natalie Schulz (Sr., South Sioux City, Neb.)  
 St. Thomas - Breezy Bannon (Sr., Dubuque, Iowa / Wahlert Catholic)

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