

2016 MIAC Softball Awards: St. Kate's, St. Thomas take top honors

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BLOOMINGTON, Minn. -- The University of St. Thomas and St. Catherine University squared off the 2016 Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) Playoff championship game, and both teams also reached at least the NCAA Tournament regional finals as well. Thanks to their success, it was no surprise Monday when the Tommies and Wildcats split the top four individual honors when the conference announced the 2016 MIAC Softball Awards.

St. Catherine infielder Robyn Rohr (Lakeville, Minn. / North) was named the 2016 MIAC Softball Player-of-the-Year in recognition of her outstanding senior season, and her head coach - Colleen Powers - was voted the 2016 MIAC Softball Coach-of-the-Year by her peers. St. Thomas first-year sensation Kierstin Anderson-Glass (Inver Grove Heights, Minn. / Visitation) received the conference's other top two individual awards, as she was named both 2016 MIAC Softball Pitcher- and Rookie-of-the-Year.



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

Rohr received Player-of-the-Year honors after putting up outstanding numbers while leading St. Kate's to the best season in program history. In conference play she ranked either first or second in nearly every offensive category. Rohr led the MIAC in batting average (.526), on-base percentage (.575), runs (25), hits (40), doubles (12) and total bases, and she ranked second in runs batted in (22) and slugging percentage (.724).

She was just as good overall, as she led the conference in average (.474), on-base percentage (.542), runs (25), hits (40) and total bases (97), and she ranked second in the MIAC in doubles (916), RBI (40) and slugging (.638). Rohr also made history by hitting safely in every game for more than a calendar year. She put together a 41-game hitting streak from April 16, 2015, to April 30, 2016, and that streak is the longest in both St. Catherine and MIAC history, and it's the second-longest ever in Division III and third-best in NCAA history across all divisions.

Rohr wasn't the only Wildcat honored, as Powers received her first MIAC Coach-of-the-Year honor in her third season at St. Kate's. She led her team to a 34-11 record and the most wins in team history, as well as the team's first-ever trip to both the NCAA and MIAC Playoffs. The Wildcats advanced to the MIAC Playoff championship game in their debut, and pushed St. Thomas to a seventh game before finishing as the runner-up, and also reached the NCAA Regional final, where they finally saw their magical season end in the seventh game as well to region-champion Luther.

In conference play, Powers led St. Kate's to a 15-7 record and a tie for third place to out-perform preseason predictions, as the MIAC Preseason Coaches' Poll picked the Wildcats to finish fifth. This season Powers coached Rohr to MIAC Player-of-the-Year honors, and coached a total of five St. Catherine players to All-Conference selections as well.

Anderson-Glass had a stunning breakout season at St. Thomas, which is still going thanks to the team's NCAA Regional Championship over the weekend. She has led the Tommies to a 41-6 overall record, and the team went 20-2 in conference play to capture the MIAC's regular-season championship, and also added the MIAC Playoff title. On the hill, the MIAC's Rookie- and Pitcher-of-the-Year was dominant in conference play, as she led the league in wins (13) and earned run average (0.76) while going 13-2 with one save, while allowing just nine earned runs on 45 hits and eight walks in 83.1 MIAC innings. She also ranked second in the MIAC in opponent batting average (.152) and strikeouts per game (7.73) and was third in total strikeouts (92).

Anderson-Glass was just as good in overall games, as she went 29-4 with two saves, though her numbers could continue to build at this weekend's NCAA Super Regional and beyond. She led the league in wins, ERA (0.91), strikeouts (222), shutouts (10) and innings pitched (200), and ranked second in opponent batting average (.172) and strikeouts per game (7.77). While Anderson-Glass was at her best on the mound, she was also valuable on offense as well, as she hit .380 as a rookie with 21 RBI, 11 runs scored, 11 doubles and three home runs.

In addition to Rohr and Anderson-Glass, the All-Conference team was led by Gustavus' Hannah Heacox, Bethel's Caroline Kivisto and Hamline's Jamie Rubbelke, who each earned their third-straight selection, and Gustavus' Nathalie Boissiere also added a third career All-MIAC honor after also being named to the team in 2013 and 2014. Eight more players earned their second-straight All-MIAC honor, including Rohr, Krista Flugstad and Megan Lindenfesler from St. Kate's, St. Olaf's Jessica Bentley, Saint Mary's Ashley Beztold and Stanzy Snyder, Hamline's Mary-Clare Couillard and St. Thomas' Katie Jo Delisle. The Tommies' Brenna Walek also earned her second-career nod, as she was also named All-MIAC in 2014.

The 37-member All-Conference team was extremely balanced in regards to experience, as the team included 11 seniors, seven juniors, 12 sophomores and seven first-year players. MIAC champion St. Thomas led the way with seven All-Conference players, and both St. Catherine and Hamline each had five players honored. Gustavus, Bethel, Saint Benedict and Saint Mary's each placed three players on the team, Augsburg, Carleton and Macalester had two players chosen each, and Concordia and St. Olaf each had one player named All-MIAC.

As part of a conference-wide sportsmanship initiative, the MIAC announced the 10th 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.

2016 MIAC SOFTBALL AWARDS

Player-of-the-Year - Robyn Rohr, St. Catherine (Sr., IF, Lakeville, Minn. / North)

Pitcher-of-the-Year - Kierstin Anderson-Glass, St. Thomas (Fy., P/1B, Inver Grove Heights, Minn. / Visitation)

Rookie-of-the-Year - Kierstin Anderson-Glass, St. Thomas (Fy., P/1B, Inver Grove Heights, Minn. / Visitation)

Coach-of-the-Year - Colleen Powers, St. Catherine (3rd season)

2016 MIAC SOFTBALL ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Hometown / High School</u>
Samantha Anderson	Augsburg	Fy.	P/INF	Coon Rapids, Minn.
Kierstin Anderson-Glass	St. Thomas	Fy.	P/1B	Inver Grove Heights, Minn. / Visitation
Melissa Barry	St. Thomas	Fy.	UTIL	Apple Valley, Minn. / Eastview
Morghan Bean	Macalester	So.	P/UTIL	Muscatine, Iowa
Jessica Bentley	St. Olaf	So.	P/OF	Minneapolis, Minn. / Edina
Ashley Betzold	Saint Mary's	Jr.	P/INF	Farmington, Minn.
Abbie Bircher	Bethel	Sr.	OF	Vadnais Heights, Minn. / White Bear Lake
Nathalee Boissiere	Gustavus	Sr.	C	Plymouth, Minn. / Robbinsdale Cooper
Brianna Cline	Augsburg	So.	OF/INF	St. Clair, Minn.
Mary-Clare Couillard	Hamline	Jr.	IF	Fridley, Minn. / St. Anthony Village
Dana Connelly	St. Thomas	Fy.	OF	Mendota Heights, Minn. / Cretin-Derham Hall
Abby Cox	Macalester	Sr.	OF	Fort Worth, Texas / Country Day
Katie Jo Delisle	St. Thomas	Sr.	P/OF	Waterville, Minn. / Mound-Westonka
Sarah DeMars	Hamline	Jr.	P/INF	St. Anthony, Minn. / St. Anthony Village
Kate Deming	Saint Benedict	Fy.	OF	Bloomington, Minn. / Jefferson
Aubree Douglas	Hamline	Fy.	C	San Jacinto, Calif.
Megan DuPuis	St. Thomas	Sr.	INF	Plymouth, Minn. / Wayzata
Krista Flugstad	St. Catherine	So.	P/INF	Bloomington, Minn. / Jefferson
Abigail Haraldson	Concordia	Jr.	P	Sidney, Mont.
Mariah Harper	Saint Mary's	Sr.	INF/OF	Schaumburg, Ill. / Lake Park
Hannah Heacox	Gustavus	Jr.	P	Stillwater, Minn.
Caroline Kivisto	Bethel	Sr.	C	Dassel, Minn. / Dassel-Cokato
Anna Lauko	Carleton	Fy.	OF	Whitefish Bay, Wis.
Megan Lindenfesler	St. Catherine	So.	P/UTIL	Nowthen, Minn. / Anoka
Kylie Macziewski	St. Catherine	So.	INF	Bloomington, Minn. / Jefferson
Amanda Orrell	Hamline	Sr.	OF	Santa Maria, Calif. / Pioneer Valley
Wendy Roberts	Bethel	So.	INF	Grantsburg, Wis.
Robyn Rohr	St. Catherine	Sr.	INF/C	Lakeville, Minn. / North
Jamie Rubbelke	Hamline	Sr.	INF	North St. Paul, Minn.
Ashley Sis	St. Catherine	So.	C/INF	Brooklyn Park, Minn. / Osseo
Stanzy Snyder	Saint Mary's	So.	OF	Johnston, Iowa
Molly Steinberg	Carleton	So.	C/INF	Santa Monica, Calif. / Harvard Westlake
Megan Toninato	Saint Benedict	So.	OF	Woodbury, Minn. / Hill-Murray
Micaela Trainor	St. Thomas	Sr.	C/OF	Winona, Minn. / Cotter
Brenna Walek	St. Thomas	Jr.	DH/1B	Maple Grove, Minn. / Robbinsdale Cooper
Sara Wennerstrand	Saint Benedict	So.	C	Baxter, Minn. / Brainerd
Jena Willis	Gustavus	Jr.	UTIL	Kalispell, Mont. / Glacier

2016 MIAC SOFTBALL ALL-CONFERENCE HONORABLE MENTION

<u>Name</u>	<u>Schools</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Hometown / High School</u>
Emilie Antony	Saint Benedict	Fy.	OF	Forest Lake, Minn.
Woo Bandel	St. Olaf	Sr.	INF	Westminster, Colo. / Standley Lake

Emily Carr	St. Olaf	Fy.	OF	Bloomington, Minn. / Jefferson
Lindsay Edeen	Bethel	Sr.	P	St. Michael, Minn. / Heritage Christian Academy
Madison Little	Concordia	Jr.	OF	Fargo, N.D. / Shanley
Corrie Lucchesi	Carleton	So.	INF	Chicago, Ill. / Lane Tech
Mackenzie McCloud	Concordia	So.	INF	Sharpsburg, Ga. / Northgate
Madison Mikolich	Saint Benedict	Fy.	C/INF	Elk River, Minn. / Rogers
Nicole Nelson	Saint Benedict	Sr.	INF	Rochester, Minn. / Lourdes
Rachel Strandmark	Gustavus	So.	OF	New Ulm, Minn.
Becca Walz	St. Olaf	Sr.	INF	Elk Grove Village, Ill. / Elk Grove
Emily Webb	Gustavus	Fy.	INF	Maple Lake, Minn.
Jessica Williams	Gustavus	Sr.	UTIL	Plymouth, Minn. / Wayzata

2016 SOFTBALL ALL-MIAC SPORTSMANSHIP TEAM

Augsburg - Jenna Orth (Sr., Melrose, Minn.)
 Bethel - Jessica Davis (Sr., Grayslake, Ill. / North)
 Carleton - Sarah Ogle (Fy., San Diego, Calif. / Francis Parker School)
 Concordia - Devonie Smith (So., Fergus Falls, Minn. / Kennedy)
 Gustavus - Amber Hoffman (Sr., New Prague, Minn.)
 Hamline - Chelsea Koehn (Sr., Clyde, Mich. / Port Huron North)
 Macalester - Katja McKiernan (So., Los Angeles, Calif. / Marymount)
 Saint Benedict - Nicole Nelson (Sr., Rochester, Minn. / Lourdes)
 St. Catherine - Donielle Kurvers (Sr., Monticello, Minn.)
 Saint Mary's - Gabby Geissler (Jr., St. Louis, Mo. / McDonnell Central Catholic)
 St. Olaf - Woo Bandel (Sr., Westminster, Colo. / Standley Lake)
 St. Thomas - Heather Kascht (Sr., Waukesha, Wis. / West)

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