

2016-17 MIAC Women's Golf Awards

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BLOOMINGTON, Minn. -- A day before they tee off at the NCAA Division III Women's Golf Championships, Carleton College received good news as first year Alyssa Akiyama and Head Coach Eric Sieger - along with Gustavus' Mae Meierhenry - were named the top Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) Women's Golf award-winners for the 2016-2017 season.

Akiyama had an unbelievable first year season in the MIAC. She was crowned the 2016 MIAC Individual Champion at the MIAC Women's Golf Championship. She set the MIAC Championship record with her final round going two-under par 70, and her 224 total over 54 holes matched the MIAC record. She also led the MIAC in scoring average (76.1). Akiyama won the Wartburg Fall Invite with MIAC all-time record five-under par 67 in final round. She finished in the top five in seven of nine of Carleton's events this season. In addition, she led Carleton to NCAA at-large bid, where they are currently ranked 9th in NCAA Division III in adjusted stroke average.

Her coach, Eric Sieger was recognized by his peers for his work leading the Knights to the NCAA Championships in 2016-17. Sieger team led the conference in team scoring average at 313.6. Its 18-hole score of 294 at the Wartburg Women's Golf Fall Invite was the lowest in the MIAC this season by two shots.

Meierhenry's honor as the MIAC's top senior is a fitting exclamation point for her career where she placed 5th at the MIAC Conference Championship. Mae posted a 78.7 scoring average for the whole season with a spring average of 75.7. She won the BluGold Classic and the Battle at the Creek. She also finished second at Washington U and the Royal Match. Meierhenry was a two year captain, a 4 year letter winner, and after this season will have earned 4 WGCA Academic All-American Honors and two Academic All-Conference Honors.

The MIAC Golf All-Conference teams were selected using a combination of MIAC championship results and end-of-season voting. The top 10 finishers (including ties) at the MIAC championships in October automatically earned All-MIAC honors, and the coaches nominated and voted to add five additional players to the 15-member squad based on their body of work throughout the season.

As part of a conference-wide sportsmanship initiative, the MIAC announced the 10th annual All-MIAC Sportsmanship team for women's golf. 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



2016-17 MIAC WOMEN'S GOLF AWARDS

Player-of-the-Year - Alyssa Akiyama, Carleton (Fy., Terrace Park, Ohio / Seven Hills School)
Senior-of-the-Year - Mae Meierhenry, Gustavus (Sr., Sioux Falls, S.D. / Lincoln)
Rookie-of-the-Year - Alyssa Akiyama, Carleton (Fy., Terrace Park, Ohio / Seven Hills School)
Coach-of-the-Year - Eric Sieger, Carleton (16th season)

2016-17 MIAC WOMEN'S GOLF ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM

Name	School	Year	Hometown / High School
Alyssa Akiyama	Carleton	Fy.	Terrace Park, Ohio / Seven Hills School

Christine Piwnica	Bethel	Jr.	Victoria, Minn. / Southwest Christian
Abby Conzemius	St. Catherine	Sr.	Chanhassen, Minn. / Minnetonka
Rachel Morris	St. Thomas	Jr.	Mequon, Wis. / Homestead
Mae Meierhenry	Gustavus	Sr.	Sioux Falls, S.D. / Lincoln
Ayumi Sakamoto	Carleton	So.	Honolulu, Hawaii / Iolani School
Sydney Busker	St. Catherine	So.	Detroit Lakes, Minn.
Natalie Amundson	Saint Benedict	So.	Alexandria, Minn.
Melissa Biesmann	St. Olaf	Fy.	Fitchburg, Wis. / Verona Area
Jessica Nelson	Gustavus	Jr.	Plymouth, Minn. / Wayzata
Kaitlyn Alvarez	St. Catherine	So.	Eau Claire, Wis. / North
Ziyi Wang	Carleton	So.	Beijing City, China / Lighthouse Christian Academy
Emily Thul	St. Thomas	Jr.	Alexandria, Minn. / Jefferson
Geraldine Tellbuescher	Carleton	Sr.	Ashiya, Japan / Canadian Academy
Kristen Cash	Gustavus	Fy.	Roseville, Minn. / Moundsview

2016-17 WOMEN'S GOLF ALL-MIAC SPORTSMANSHIP TEAM

Augsburg - Wendy Anderson (Sr., Bird Island, Minn. / Bold)
 Bethel - Kalyn Root (Sr., Orange City, Iowa / MOC Floyd Valley)
 Carleton - Shannon Holden (Sr., Simi Valley, Calif. / Royal)
 Concordia - Erin Pennington (Jr., Lake City, Minn. / Lincoln)
 Gustavus - Mae Meierhenry (Sr., Sioux Falls, S.D. / Lincoln)
 Macalester - Ji Sue Song (So., Surrey, B.C. / Southridge School)
 Saint Benedict - Madeline Pagel (So., Rochester, Minn. / Lourdes)
 St. Catherine - Sydney Busker (So., Detroit Lakes, Minn.)
 Saint Mary's -Kaitlin Kling (Jr., LeRoy, Minn. / LeRoy-Ostrander)
 St. Olaf - Meaghan Carney (Jr., Denmark, Wis.)
 St. Thomas - Morgan McCorkle (Jr., Oregon, Wis.)

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