

Mollie Carroll, Gustavus

Eagan, Minn. / Eagan
Week of: 2012-03-05



The Gustavus women's hockey team added its ninth-straight MIAC Playoff title to its trophy case Saturday, scoring a 4-2 title game win over Concordia after beating Bethel 1-0 in overtime in Thursday's semifinals. **Mollie Carroll** (Eagan, Minn.) led the way in the championship victory, sparking a four-goal surge in a 12-minute span that helped the Gusties turn a 1-0 deficit into a three-goal lead en route to the win. For her performance, Carroll has been named the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week, winning the final honor of the 2011-12 season.

Carroll started the Gustavus scoring spree Saturday when she netted a power-play goal at the 15:01 mark of the second period to tie the game 1-1. She capped the four-goal surge 6:50 into the final period when she scored her second goal of the game to extend the Gusties' lead to 4-1, which ended up being an important insurance goal as Concordia scored again to pull within two. This season, Carroll has been one of the MIAC's top players, earning All-Conference honors and leading the league in assists (22) and ranking second in points (37) and sixth in goals (15).

The win helped Gustavus improve to 23-2-2, and it has now won nine-straight Playoff titles and eight-straight regular season MIAC championships. Carroll and her teammates are in the NCAA Division III Women's Hockey Tournament for the ninth year in a row, and they'll open the postseason Saturday when it hosts UW-River Falls (23-4-2) at Don Roberts Ice Rink in St. Peter in the quarterfinals.

Amanda Cartony, Gustavus

Stillwater, Minn. / Stillwater
Week of: 2012-02-27



The Gustavus women's hockey team put the finishing touches on a tremendous regular season with a high-scoring sweep of Saint Benedict over the weekend. Leading the way was sophomore forward **Amanda Cartony**, who scored two goals in each of the Gusties' two wins over the Blazers, and added an assist for a solid five-point weekend. For her performance, Cartony has been named the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week.

Friday, Cartony lit the lamp once in the second period and again in the third as Gustavus rolled to a 9-1 win over CSB in its final home game of the regular season. Saturday, she was even better, scoring two of the Gusties' first three goals and adding an assist to her stat line in a 7-2 win to cap off the team's eighth-straight MIAC regular season conference championship. This season, Cartony is tied for sixth in the MIAC with 26 points, while ranking in the top 13 in both goals and assists as well. Her 13 goals are tied for the eighth-most in the conference, and she also has 13 assists.

The Gusties finished the regular season with just two losses and two ties in 25 games for a final record of 21-2-2, including a 16-1-1 MIAC record and a total of 33 points to lead the conference standings by eight points over the second-place squad. Cartony and her teammates are the No. 1 seed in this week's MIAC Women's Hockey Playoffs, and will host the winner of Tuesday's first-round game between No. 4 St. Olaf and No. 5 Bethel. The Gusties host one of Thursday's semifinals at 7 p.m., with the postseason championship game set for Saturday.

Sam Ubl, St. Olaf

Ramsey, Minn. / Anoka
Week of: 2012-02-20



It had been 27 games since the Gustavus women's hockey team suffered a loss in conference play, however, St. Olaf didn't let a two-goal deficit stand in its way of stopping the streak Saturday thanks largely to the play of its freshman goaltender. **Sam Ubl** (Ramsey, Minn./Anoka) made 42 saves and kept the Gusties off the board over the game's final 39 minutes to help her team score a historic 5-2 win over the conference champions. For her performance, Ubl has been named the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week.

It appeared like Gustavus would run its MIAC unbeaten streak to 28 games Saturday when it scored to go up 2-0 less than a minute into the second period, with both goals coming on power play opportunities. However, Ubl was a wall in front of the net the rest of the way as her team scored with 1:06 left in the second and added four more goals in the third to complete the come-from-behind win. Ubl stopped 42 of the 44 shots she faced and her team prevailed when it scored an empty net goal after the Gusties pulled their goalie. This season, Ubl is 4-2-3 in nine starts and has a .904 save percentage.

The Oles enter the final weekend of the regular season with an overall record of 8-1-4 and an 8-6-2 conference mark. St. Olaf's 18 points currently have it in the fifth and final MIAC Playoff spot, and it will control its postseason destiny with a series against sixth-place St. Catherine this weekend. The Oles host Friday's game at 7:30 p.m. and will close the regular season Saturday against the Wildcats at Drake Arena in St. Paul at 2 p.m.

Biranna Schulz, Augsburg

Prior Lake, Minn. / Prior Lake
Week of: 2012-02-13



The Augsburg women's hockey team played Bethel close throughout the weekend, managing a one-goal loss and a tie, thanks largely to the performance of goalie **Brianna Schulz** (Prior Lake, Minn.). The Auggie freshman played well beyond her years against the Royals, collecting 86 saves over the two games with a .966 save percentage and a 1.44 goals against average. For her terrific play in front of the net, Schulz has been named the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week.

Schulz started the weekend off in a big way. Even though Augsburg lost a 2-1 decision at Bethel Friday night, its freshman goalie was phenomenal, setting a new career high with 53 saves. She followed that up with a 33-save, 1-goal-allowed performance Saturday to lead the Auggies to a 1-1 overtime tie. Overall, she played 125 minutes in net, stopped 86 shots and allowed just three goals. This season, Schulz has been in the net for all five of Augsburg's wins with a 2.65 goals against average and a .932 save percentage. her 524 total saves are the most of any MIAC goalie this season and her save percentage ranks fourth in the conference and 12th in Division III.

Augsburg is currently 5-9-7 overall and 2-9-3 in conference play, and its seven points have it in 10th place in the MIAC standings. Augsburg will face cross-town rival St. Thomas in a conference series this weekend, with the Auggies hosting Saturday's game at 7 p.m. and the Tommies hosting Sunday's game at 1 p.m. Augsburg will wrap up the regular season next weekend with a series against Concordia.

Cassie Rooney, St. Catherine

Plymouth, Minn. / Wayzata
Week of: 2012-02-06



The St. Catherine women's hockey team scored a road split at then-No. 9-ranked Concordia over the weekend with **Cassie Rooney** (Plymouth, Minn./Wayzata) playing the role of hero in Friday's 4-3 upset win over the Cobbers. The senior forward scored a hat trick for the Wildcats and scored the game-tying and game-winning goals late in the game to propel her team to victory. For her performance, Rooney has been named the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week.

Rooney started the scoring with Friday's first goal, but SCU found itself on the wrong end of a 3-1 deficit at the end of the first period. However, the Wildcats battled back setting the stage for Rooney's clutch performance. With just two minutes left in the second period, she scored to tie the game at 3-3, then with less than five minutes left in the game she scored again to give herself the hat trick and her team the win. This season Rooney had 13 points on eight goals and five assists, and she ranks in the Top 20 in the MIAC in both points and goals.

St. Catherine used the split and two points to stay in the thick of the race for spots in the five-team MIAC Playoffs. The Wildcats are now 8-8-2 overall and 4-6-2 in the MIAC with 10 points, currently good for sixth place and just two points out of the final Playoff spot. SCU will face a tough test this weekend against second-place St. Thomas. The Tommies host Friday's game in Mendota Heights at 7 p.m., and the Wildcats will host Saturday's game at 2 p.m. at Ridder Arena on the University of Minnesota campus.

Alise Riedel, St. Thomas

Hudson, Wis. / Hudson
Week of: 2012-01-30



The St. Thomas women's hockey team turned its season around in January, and capped the month with a big MIAC sweep of a team its chasing in the standings. Behind a tremendous performance by goalie **Alise Riedel** (Hudson, Wis.), the Tommies handed St. Olaf a pair of losses over the weekend to wrap up a 6-1 month and five-spot jump in the MIAC standings. UST's sophomore stopper was huge in the two wins, making 52 saves on 53 shots and allowing just a single goal over the course of the weekend. For her performance, Riedel has been named the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week.

Riedel's big weekend started Friday with a brilliant 30-save performance against the Oles. She allowed just one goal as she faced 31 shots and kept her team in the game in an eventual 2-1 win for St. Thomas. She followed that up by stopping all 22 shots she faced in Saturday's 4-0 win for a shutout. She finished the weekend with a 0.5 goals against average and a .981 save percentage. This season, Riedel ranks second in the MIAC with a .937 save percentage and her goals against average of 1.67 ranks third in the league.

With the two wins, St. Thomas is now 8-6-2 overall and 5-4-1 in MIAC play. The Tommies have moved up from ninth to a tie for fourth place with 11 points in the MIAC standings, and would currently be a part of the five-team MIAC Playoff field. This weekend, St. Thomas will try to carry its hot streak into February as it takes on Bethel for a conference home-and-home series. Friday's game will be on Bethel's home ice at the Super Rink in Blaine with the series shifting to the St. Thomas ice arena in Mendota Heights. The puck drops for both games at 7 p.m.

Kaylee Keys, St. Thomas

St. Paul, Minn. / Cretin-Derham Hall
Week of: 2012-01-23



Thanks to a hard-fought weekend sweep of Saint Mary's, the St. Thomas women's hockey team moved closer to Playoff contention heading into the final month of the season. Leading the way in the two wins was senior **Kaylee Keys** (St. Paul, Minn./Cretin-Derham Hall). The forward had four points - three goals and one assist - in the sweep, and had a hand in both game-winning goals. For her performance, Keys has been named the MIAC Women's Hockey Player-of-the-Week.

In Saturday's 3-2 overtime win on Saint Mary's home ice in Winona, Keys scored one of the Tommies' two goals in regulation to help force overtime. In the extra period she helped set up the game-winning goal with an assist to cap a two-point night. For an encore, she scored UST's first two goals Sunday - including the eventual game-winner - as the Tommies added a late empty-net goal in a 3-1 win. Last week UST also lost a tough 2-1 decision to No. 7-ranked Amherst. This season, Keys has 12 points with seven goals and five assists and leads the MIAC with two shorthanded goals and points.

The sweep helped St. Thomas even its overall record at 6-6-2 and improve to 3-4-1 in MIAC play, and UST received a vote in this week's USCHO.com Top 10 poll. With seven points, the Tommies currently hold the sixth spot in the MIAC standings, and they sit just a point behind the teams tied for fourth. Five of UST's six losses have come against teams ranked in the Top 10. The Tommies will try to keep their winning streak alive this weekend during a home-and-home MIAC series with St. Olaf. UST hosts Friday's game in Mendota Heights at 7 p.m., while the Oles will host Saturday's game at 2 p.m. in Northfield.

Korrine O'Connor, St. Thomas

New Ulm, Minn. / New Ulm
Week of: 2012-01-16



The St. Thomas women's hockey team has fared well against a tough schedule this season, and this weekend they came up with a pair of huge nonconference wins against two tough teams from the WIAC conference. Leading the way in both wins was forward **Korrine O'Connor** (New Ulm, Minn.). The junior scored the game-winning goal in Tuesday's victory, then came back with a pair of goals a day later to lead the Tommies to another big win. For her big performance, O'Connor has been named the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week.

O'Connor's big week started Tuesday, when she scored what proved to be the game-winning goal in a 3-1 win over UW-Stevens Point. She was even better a day later as UST took down UW-Eau Claire with a 4-0 shutout. O'Connor contributed two of the four goals in the victory, and she finished with three goals in two days as the Tommies inched back closer to .500. This season, O'Connor has five goals and one assist for six points. Her five goals are tied for the 14th most in the MIAC in 2011-12, and in 63 career games she has 20 goals and 21 assists for a total of 41 points.

Though St. Thomas' overall record isn't quite .500 at 4-5-2, four of the five losses have come to teams ranked in the Top 10. This week, the Tommies and O'Connor will have a chance to move above the .500 mark with a home game Thursday against No. 7-ranked Amherst at 7 p.m. and a weekend MIAC series against Saint Mary's. Saturday's game will be in Winona with Sunday's rematch set for St. Thomas' home ice. Both conference games will start at 2 p.m.

Rachel Hennessy, Augsburg

Williston, N.D. / Williston
Week of: 2012-01-09



So far this season, Augsburg freshman forward **Rachel Hennessy** has been among the top women's hockey newcomers in both the MIAC and all of NCAA Division III. She got the 2012 portion of her first year off to a similarly strong start over the weekend with four points - two goals and two assists - to help the Auggies score a win and a tie in nonconference play on the road against Marian (Wis.). For her performance, Hennessy has been named the first MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week for the 2012 calendar year.

Hennessy's big weekend started Friday as she assisted on one of Augsburg's two goals in a 2-2 overtime tie with Marian in Waupun, Wis. However, she was just getting started as she factored in all three of the Auggies' goals in Saturday's 3-1 win, scoring two goals and assisting on the third to help Augsburg claim the victory. With 14 goals scored this season, Hennessy is currently in a three-way tie for the national goal-scoring lead in Division III, and she ranks second in goals per game with an average of 1.27. She leads the MIAC in both categories. In her incredible rookie season, Hennessy has at least one point in 10 of her first 11 collegiate games, including five multi-goal or multi-point efforts.

The nonconference win and tie over the weekend helped Augsburg and its star freshman improve to 5-4-2 overall with a 2-4 record and four points in conference play. The Auggies will have one more weekend of nonconference play - they host St. Scholastica (which received votes in Monday's USCHO.com poll) for a two-game set at 7 p.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday - before returning to MIAC play next weekend with a home-and-home series against Hamline on Jan. 20-21.

Corrine Henning, Hamline



Hamline women's hockey player Corine Henning (St. Paul, Minn./Culver Academy) certainly picked a good weekend to join the scoring column. The sophomore forward scored her first two goals of the season - including an overtime game-winner - and she assisted on another game-winning goal as the Pipers scored a nonconference sweep of Marian over the weekend. She finished with a plus-2 rating while leading Hamline in goals and shots on goal. For her performance, Henning has been named the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week.

Friday, Henning's first goal of the season started a thrilling comeback in a 3-2 win over Marian. She lit the lamp 4:20 into the final period to start a three-goal rally that gave her team the win, and she followed with an assist on the game-winning goal with less than seven minutes to play. Her late-game heroics were even better a night later as she scored the game's lone goal 3:18 into overtime to give her team a 1-0, overtime win and the weekend sweep. The three-point weekend came along with a team-high 13 shots on goal, and now Henning has two goals and three assists for a total of five points in 2011-12.

The two wins hope to get Hamline headed in the right direction, as it improved to 3-6-1 overall (0-5-1 MIAC). The Pipers will take time off to rest and regroup over finals and the Holidays and will return with a pair of nonconference games in early January. Hamline will travel to St. Norbert and Concordia-Wisconsin on Jan. 6 and 7, respectively, before returning to MIAC play the following weekend.

Breann Julius, Concordia

Brookings, S.D. / Quinnipiac
Week of: 2011-12-05



The 2011-12 season is off to an incredible start for the ninth-ranked Concordia women's hockey team, highlighted by its performance over the weekend. Sophomore **Breann Julius** (Brookings, S.D./Quinnipiac) led the Cobbers to a two-game sweep over St. Thomas - Concordia's first-ever sweep of the Tommies - thanks to her five-point weekend, which featured a hat trick in Saturday's victory. For her performance, Julius has been named the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week.

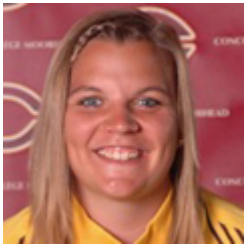
Julius got the weekend started right with a hand in both of Concordia's goals in Friday's 2-1 win over UST. She scored one goal and assisted on the other while racking up a game-high six shots. Her encore performance Saturday was even better, as she sparked the Cobbers' 4-1 win with a hat trick, scoring one goal in the second and two to seal the sweep in the third. This season, Julius has been a crucial part of Concordia's success with seven goals and four assists for 11 points. Her seven goals are tied for the fifth-most in the league, and her 11 points are tied for the eighth-highest total in the MIAC.

The two wins helped Concordia improve to 6-1-1 overall and 4-1-1 in the MIAC with nine points and a second-place tie in the conference standings. The Cobbers have now won four games in a row and are ranked in the Top 10 for the first time in program history. Concordia will try to keep its streak alive Saturday when it takes on St. Catherine in a nonconference game in Buffalo, Minn., at 5 p.m. That will wrap up the Cobbers' 2011 schedule, as they won't play again until a nonconference series against Lindenwood on Jan. 6-7. Concordia won't return to conference play until the weekend of Jan. 20-21.

Ali Nelson, Concordia

Maple Grove, Minn. / Maple Grove

Week of: 2011-11-28



Winning can be contagious, and now the Concordia women's hockey team has proof. Just six days after playing for the Cobber women's soccer team in the NCAA Tournament, junior **Ali Nelson** (Maple Grove, Minn.) stepped into Concordia's hockey lineup and keyed a weekend sweep of Lake Forest (Ill.), a team in the "Others receiving votes" section of the USCHO Division III Top 10 poll. The Cobber defender had four points over the weekend, and helped hold Lake Forest's offense in check in the sweep. As a result, Nelson has been named the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week.

Nelson had three points - including the game winning assist - in Friday's 5-3 win, and added another point in Saturday's 4-1 victory over Lake Forest. Over the two games, the junior defender had one goal and three assists for a total of four points in her first two games of the season. She also was a leader on defense, as Concordia held Lake Forest to just 32 total shots over the two games. Her hockey success comes immediately after she led Concordia to a 13-4-6 record and a Sweet 16 appearance while earning All-MIAC honors as the women's soccer team's goalkeeper.

The sweep of Lake Forest helped the now-ninth-ranked Cobbers improve to 4-1-1 overall and jump into the national rankings at No. 9 this week. They're currently in a three-way tie for second in the MIAC standings with five points and a 2-1-1 league record. Concordia will hit the road this weekend for a big conference series at St. Thomas, with games Friday at 7 p.m. and Saturday at 2 p.m. The Cobbers will also take on St. Catherine in a non-conference, neutral ice game on Dec. 10 before taking the rest of the month off for finals and the Holidays.

Ali McKeever, St. Olaf

Woodbury, Minn. / Hill-Murray

Week of: 2011-11-21



The St. Olaf women's hockey team scored a sweep of conference rival Hamline over the weekend, with goalie **Ali McKeever** (Woodbury, Minn./Hill-Murray) and her performance in the net serving as the biggest lasting image from the two wins. McKeever - just a freshman - played beyond her years while stopping 52 of the 53 shots she faced en route to a pair of victories and one shutout to help her team keep pace near the top of the league standings. For her performance, McKeever has been named the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week.

McKeever started her big weekend with a 24-save shutout in a 1-0 win over the Pipers on Friday. On Saturday she made 24 saves in a 3-1 victory to secure the sweep, with the only goal she allowed the entire weekend coming on a Hamline power play. The two wins helped McKeever to improve to 2-2-1 in goal this season with 126 saves and 11 goals allowed in 271:45 minutes this season. her .920 save percentage ranks sixth in the MIAC, while her 2.43 goals against average is seventh.

The two wins helped St. Olaf get back to .500 overall at 2-2-3, and the Oles' 2-1-1 MIAC record and five conference points has them tied for second place in the league standings after the first two weekends of MIAC play. The Oles and their talented freshman goalie will be back on the ice Tuesday night for a 7 p.m. nonconference game at UW-River Falls. St. Olaf returns to MIAC play on Dec. 2-3 in a home-and-home conference series with Saint Mary's.

Mollie Carroll, Gustavus



The Gustavus women's hockey team picked right up where it left off with four convincing wins to start the season and an early spot in first place in the MIAC. The defending conference regular-season and playoff champs have been explosive on offense thus far, largely thanks to the play of senior **Mollie Carroll** (Eagan, Minn.). The star forward leads the conference with 10 points - five goals and five assists - while recording at least one point in each game in leading the Gusties to their 4-0 start. For her performance, Carroll has been named the first MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week.

Carroll's hot start began with a goal in a 7-1 win over Concordia-Wisconsin, and followed with three assists in an 8-1 win over St. Norbert. She was just as good over the weekend as MIAC play began. Carroll led the Gusties to a sweep of Bethel, tallying two goals and an assist in each game, giving her three points in three consecutive games. This season, Carroll's 10 points are the most in the MIAC. Her five goals are tied for the fourth most, while her five assists are tied for the third-most in the league.

The Gusties are the only team in the MIAC without a loss or tie on their record thus far, and they were the only team to come out of the first conference weekend with two wins and four points. Gustavus has won its first four games by a combined score of 26-6. The Gusties, currently ranked No. 6 in the USCHO.com Division III Women's Top 10 Poll, have a big series on tap this weekend with St. Thomas. The Gusties host the Tommies Friday in St. Peter, then follow with a 2 p.m. start on UST's home ice Saturday.