

MIAC Hockey Athletes-of-the-Week - November 2, 2015

Posted: Nov 02, 2015



MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

Brandon Zurn, Hamline Mahtomedi, Minn. / Mahtomedi

Opening weekends don't get much bigger than the one Hamline's Brandon Zurn (Mahtomedi, Minn.) had at the 2015 MIAC Men's Hockey Showcase. The senior forward scored five goals and added two

assists for a seven-point weekend while leading his team to a 1-0-1 record, and he scored the shootout-winning goal following the 3-3 overtime tie with Gustavus. For his high-scoring performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Zurn Monday with the first MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award of the 2015-16 season.

Zurn got off to a great start with a goal and an assist in Saturday's overtime tie with Gustavus. Though the game went down as a tie in the standings, the two teams held a shootout following overtime, with Zurn delivering the winning goal for the Pipers. However, Saturday just turned out to be the appetizer to Sunday's main course, as Zurn scored four goals and added an assist in an 8-5 win over Saint Mary's. He had three power-play goals and one short-handed goal en route to the hat trick in a rematch of last year's MIAC Playoff championship game. Thus far this season, Zurn's five goals and seven points lead all MIAC skaters.

Thanks to the big opening weekend on the MIAC's big stage, Hamline is off to a 1-0-1 start to the 2015 season and the Pipers are currently receiving votes in the D3hockey.com Top 15 national poll. This weekend, Zurn and company hope to stay hot as conference play begins with a home-and-home series with St. Olaf. The Pipers head to Northfield for Friday's 7:30 p.m. game, then will host the Oles at Oscar Johnson Arena in St. Paul Saturday at 7 p.m.



MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

Marah Shields, Saint Mary's Milford, Mich. / Honeybaked

Saint Mary's Marah Shields certainly knows how to make an entrance. The Cardinals' junior goalie starred in her 2015-16 season debut, as she was greeted by 81 shots from a feisty UW-Superior team. She stood up to the barrage admirably, making a school-record 79 saves, which is No. 6 on the Division III all-time single-game saves leader board. For her historic performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Shields Monday with the first MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week awards.

Shields' remarkable effort in goal didn't receive any offensive support, and the two goals she allowed in 81 shots were the difference in a 2-0 loss to the Yellowjackets. The Cardinal junior made 33 saves in the second period alone, and she already had a new school record (55 saves) by the second intermission. Shields kept UW-Superior off the board until the final period, and finished with a .975 save percentage in her season debut. After one weekend of play, Shields leads the MIAC in total saves by more than 30, even though she played just one game, and her .975 save percentage also ranks No. 1 in the league.

The Cardinals won Friday's game and finished the opening weekend with an even record of 1-1. The team and Shields will receive a much needed break this weekend as they rest up and prepare for the start of conference play. Saint Mary's returns to the ice for a big home-and-home series with Bethel to open MIAC play. The Cardinals host the Royals on Friday, Nov. 13, at 7 p.m., then return the favor Saturday, Nov. 14, with a 3 p.m. game at the Schwan Super Rink in Blaine, Minn.

MIAC Hockey Athletes-of-the-Week - Nov. 9, 2015

Posted: Nov 09, 2015



MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

**Alex Reichle, Concordia
Wildwood, Mo. / Eureka**

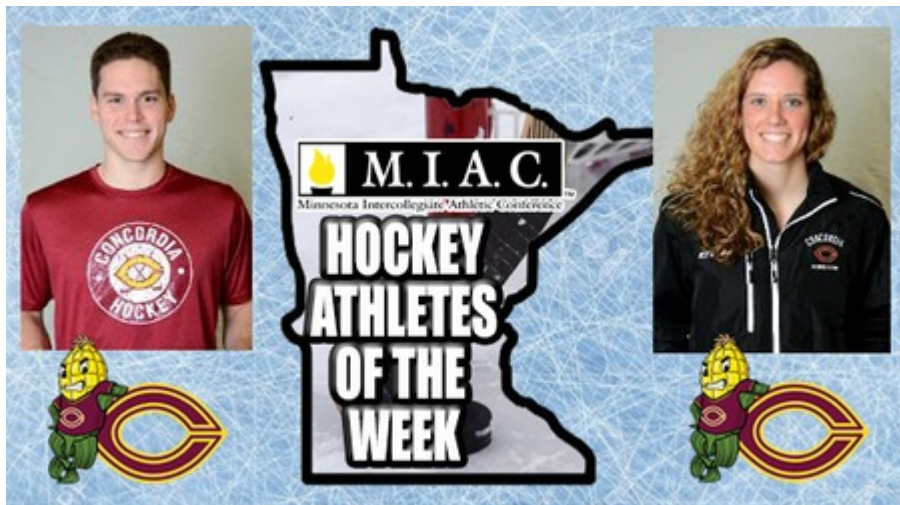
The Concordia men's hockey team started off MIAC play in style with a rare road sweep of Saint John's over the weekend in St. Cloud, Minn. Sophomore goalie Alex Reichle (Wildwood, Mo./Eureka) had a huge

weekend in the net, as he earned the win in both games with a 1.50 goals against average and a .958 save

percentage. He stopped 69 of 72 shots while leading the Cobbers to just their second-ever sweep of the Johnnies at the Herb Brooks National Hockey Center. For his performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Reichle Monday with the MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Reichle allowed a goal in the second minute of Friday's game, but was a wall the rest of the way, stopping all of Saint John's remaining 32 shots to help his team earn a 3-1 victory that was aided by a late empty-net goal. Saturday, Reichle stopped the first 21 shots he faced to help Concordia build a 2-0 lead, and he stopped 16 of 17 shots in the third period to give the Cobbers the 3-2 win. Thus far in 2015, Reichle leads the MIAC with three wins, he ranks second with a .935 save percentage and third in goals against average (2.00).

Thanks to the sweep, Concordia is off to a perfect 2-0 start in conference play and leads the standings with six points. The team also improved to 3-1 overall. Reichle and the Cobbers will try to stay hot this weekend in their home debut as they host a pair of Wisconsin schools in nonconference action. UW-Stevens Point visits Moorhead on Friday for an 8 p.m. game, and UW-Eau Claire will visit Concordia Saturday for a 7 p.m. contest, both at the Moorhead Sports Center.



MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

**Anna Westmark, Concordia
Appleton, Wis. / North**

The Concordia women's hockey team opened its season with a tough task: two games on the road at No. 11-ranked UW-Stevens Point. However, the Cobbers and senior forward Anna Westmark (Appleton, Wis./North) battled admirably in a pair of one-goal losses to the Pointers. Westmark led the way with a three-point weekend with two goals and an assist, including one goal that forced overtime. For her performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Westmark Monday with the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week awards.

Westmark started off with an assist and two shots Friday as her team lost its season opener 5-4 at 11th-ranked UWSP. She was even better a night later, scoring two goals and getting off six shots. Her second goal tied the game just as the horn sounded to force overtime, where the Cobbers lost again, 5-4. Her three-point weekend led the team and her eight shots were the second-most on the squad. Westmark missed all of last season with an injury, but didn't show any signs of rust in her first action since the 2013-14 season. Westmark's two goals are tied for the most in the MIAC thus far in 2015-16.

The two tough-luck losses to a ranked foe have Concordia off to an 0-2 start this season, but the Cobbers will benefit from having the rest of its games in November on its home ice. The team will open MIAC play and host its home opener Friday to start a two-game series against Saint Benedict. Friday's game at the Moorhead Sports Center will start at 6 p.m., with Saturday's rematch set for a 2 p.m. start.



MIAC Hockey Athletes-of-the-Week - Nov. 16, 2015

Posted: Nov 16, 2015



MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

**Martin Gruse, Saint Mary's
Trenton, Mich.**

The Saint Mary's men's hockey team scored a big sweep of Bethel to open conference play over the weekend, with high-scoring forward Martin Gruse (Trenton, Mich.) picking up

right where he left off a season ago. Gruse recorded seven total points in the two wins on two goals and five assists and he also had seven shots and finished with a plus-minus rating of plus-five for the week. For his performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Gruse Monday with the MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Gruse and the Cardinals got off to their great MIAC start with an unbelievable 19-goal performance in the two wins, which included a 10-2 win Friday and a 9-1 victory Saturday. Gruse's playmaking skills were a huge reason for the big numbers, as he had his third collegiate four-point game with a goal and four assists Friday, and he followed that up with another goal and two assists in Saturday's win. Gruse now has at least one point in all six of Saint Mary's games this season, as his eight assists lead the MIAC, his 11 points rank third and his three goals are tied for ninth in the conference.

Thanks to the two wins, Saint Mary's improved to 3-2-1 overall and started off 2-0 in conference play with six points in the standings. The Cardinals are currently in a three-way tie atop the standings with Concordia and St. Thomas. Gruse and Saint Mary's will try to keep rolling with another big MIAC series weekend coming up. Friday the team will play a 7:30 p.m. game at St. Olaf, and they'll return the favor Saturday by hosting the Oles in Winona, Minn., at 7 p.m.



MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

**Andrea Klug, Concordia
West Fargo, N.D. / West Fargo**

A goalie can't have a much better weekend than Concordia's Andrea Klug (West Fargo, N.D.), and the Cobber junior picked a good time for a brilliant performance, as it came over the first weekend of conference play. Klug led Concordia to a two-game sweep of Saint Benedict by not allowing a single goal in 120 minutes of ice time. She stopped all 58 shots she faced and notched a pair of shutouts to help her team start strong in the MIAC. For her performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Klug Monday with the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Klug's picture-perfect weekend started with a 27-save shutout of the Blazers on Friday night as the Cobbers rolled to a 5-0 victory. She was even better a day later in a closer game, as she made 29 saves and shut out Saint Ben's again in Saturday's 3-0 victory to finish off the sweep. Klug became the first Concordia goalie to

post back-to-back shutouts since 2012-13. Klug's big weekend improved her record to 2-1 in goal with a 1.68 goals against average and a .944 save percentage. She ranks in the top five in all goalie statistical categories in overall games, and she leads the conference in MIAC games only with her 56 saves, 1.000 save percentage, 0.00 goals against average, two wins and two shutouts.

Thanks to the two wins, the Cobbers improved to 2-2 overall and they're one of two teams - along with Augsburg - to start the season with a conference sweep. Concordia and the Auggies each have four points to share first place in the MIAC. Klug will try to keep her hot hand going with another big MIAC home series coming up as the Cobbers will host St. Catherine for a pair of conference games this weekend. Friday's game starts at 7 p.m. with Saturday's to follow at 2 p.m., with both at the Moorhead Sports Center.



MIAC Hockey Athletes-of-the-Week - Nov. 23, 2015

Posted: Nov 23, 2015



MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

**Saxton Soley, Saint John's
Elk Mound, Wis. / Eau Claire Memorial**

The Saint John's men's hockey team broke out of its season-opening slump in a big way over the weekend with a two-game sweep of then-No. 14-ranked Hamline. The Johnnies got outstanding goaltending from senior

Saxton Soley (Elk Mound, Wis. / Eau Claire Memorial) in the two big wins, as he made 67 saves with a .944 save percentage and a 2.00 goals against average against the high-powered Piper offense. For his performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Soley Monday with the MIAC men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Soley's big weekend started with a 30-save, one-goal performance in Friday's 2-1 home win over Hamline, as he limited a team averaging more than four goals per game to just the lone tally. He kept SJU in the game, which ended with the Johnnies scoring the game-winner with just 30 seconds left in regulation. Soley followed that up by stopping 37 of 40 shots Saturday to help his team score a one-goal win again (4-3) as he notched his 40th career victory. Soley's career record is now 40-24-8. This season, Soley's 241 saves lead the MIAC, his .920 save percentage ranks third in the league and his 2.52 goals against average ranks fifth.

Thanks to the sweep, Saint John's got its first two wins of the season and improved to 2-4-2 overall and evened its MIAC record at 2-2. The Johnnies now have six points, and are in a tie for third place in the MIAC standings. The team hopes its success continues with a big holiday-week trip to New York coming up. Friday, Soley and company play at Utica College in Utica, N.Y., at 6 p.m., and they'll take on Oswego State in Utica Saturday at 3 p.m.



MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

**Andrea Klug, Concordia
West Fargo, N.D. / West Fargo**

If Concordia goalie Andrea Klug's (West Fargo, N.D.) play in the crease gets any hotter, she's going to start melting the ice. The Cobber junior continued her shutout streak to help the team earn another MIAC sweep - this time over St. Catherine - over the weekend. Klug made 42 total saves in 119:46 of ice time without allowing a goal, and she now has stopped 100-straight shots over 250 minutes in her streak of four-straight shutouts. For her performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Klug with her second-straight MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Klug continued her red-hot play by leading Concordia to a 1-0 victory Friday and a 3-0 win Saturday, both at home, over the Wildcats. She stopped 12 shots in 59:46 Friday, and was outstanding on Saturday with 30 saves, including several against seven St. Kate's power plays and a 5-on-3 situation. The four-straight shutouts are a Cobber program record, and her 30 saves Saturday were the most in a single game during her remarkable streak. This season, Klug is 4-1 with 127 saves, a .962 save percentage and a 1.00 goals against average to rank in the top four in the MIAC in each category. In conference play, she's the league leader in wins (four), saves (98), save percentage (1.000) and goals against average (0.00). Klug is second in the nation in shutouts, and ranked in the top 15 in Division III in goals against average, save percentage and winning percentage.

Thanks to Klug's continued excellence, Concordia is now 4-2 overall with a four-game winning streak, and the team is off to its first-ever 4-0 start in conference play. The Cobbers have eight points to sit alone atop the MIAC standings. The team - and Klug - will try to keep the streak alive this weekend with another home series. Concordia hosts Marian (Wis.) Saturday at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. at the Moorhead Sports Center for a pair of nonconference games.

MIAC Hockey Athletes-of-the-Week - Nov. 30, 2015

Posted: Nov 30, 2015



MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

Bob Kinne, Saint Mary's St. Paul, Minn. / Cretin-Derham Hall

The Saint Mary's men's hockey team continued their high-scoring ways with 12 total goals in a nonconference sweep of Aurora over the weekend. Leading the way was junior forward Bob Kinne (St.

Paul, Minn./Cretin-Derham Hall), who had five points on three goals and two assists - including his second career hat trick. For his performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Kinne Monday with the MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Kinne contributed an assist Saturday in Saint Mary's 7-4 victory over Aurora before exploding with his best game of the 2015 season to date on Sunday. Kinne had a hat trick and was involved in four of the Cardinals' five goals in the 5-3, sweep-sealing victory. His three-goal, one-assist performance included the game-winning tally, and it resulted in his first hat trick of his junior season. Kinne has now recorded at least one point in eight of the team's nine games, including 14 points (seven goals, seven assists) in SMU's last six outings. Kinne ranks fourth in the MIAC with 17 points, third with eight goals and fifth with nine assists.

Thanks to the sweep, Saint Mary's improved to 6-2-2 thus far in 2015-16, and the Cardinals received votes in the latest D3hockey.com and USCHO.com Top 15 polls. The team is 6-0-2 since dropping its first two games of the season, and alone atop the MIAC standings with 10 points (3-0-1). Kinne and company return to MIAC play this weekend where they hope to continue their eight-game unbeaten streak with a weekend series at Concordia. Friday's game starts at 7 p.m. and Saturday's puck drops at 2 p.m. at the Moorhead Sports Center.



MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

Allison Eder-Zdechlik, Gustavus Stillwater, Minn. / Stillwater

The Gustavus women's hockey team faced the nation's toughest schedule - literally - over the weekend and competed well in narrow losses against both the No. 1 and 2 ranked teams in Division III. Senior forward Allison Eder-Zdechlik (Stillwater, Minn.) was certainly up to the challenge, as she continued her scoring streak with a goal in each game against the nation's best to extend her impressive goal and point streaks. For her performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Eder-Zdechlik Monday with the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Eder-Zdechlik has now scored a goal in five-straight games, and recorded at least one point in seven-straight as she lit the lamp against both No. 2 Elmira and No. 1 Plattsburgh State. Saturday, she scored a power-play goal 12:13 into the game to give Gustavus a 1-0 lead over Elmira, but it was all the Gusties could manage in the 2-1 loss. Saturday, she scored in the first period again to tie Plattsburgh State at 1-1 and spark her team to an eventual 3-1 lead, but the nation's top-ranked team scored four times in the third to beat Gustavus 5-3.

This season, Eder-Zdechlik leads the MIAC in points (11) and goals (9) and has a plus-five rating with one hat trick and one game-winner.

The narrow losses to the nation's top teams dropped Gustavus to 3-3-2 overall this season, and the Gusties are 2-1-1 in conference play, tied for third place with five points. Gustavus is currently ranked No. 9 in the nation by USCHO.com, and is receiving votes in the D3Hockey.com Top 10 poll. Eder-Zdechlik and the Gusties return to MIAC play this weekend with a home-and-home series against Saint Benedict. Friday's game will be in St. Cloud, Minn., at 7:30 p.m., with Saturday's 2 p.m. rematch to take place on Gustavus' home ice in St. Peter, Minn.

MIAC Hockey Athletes-of-the-Week - Dec. 7, 2015

Posted: Dec 07, 2015



MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

**Alex Reichle, Concordia
Wildwood, Mo. / Eureka**

The Concordia men's hockey team got defensive in a big way in a huge MIAC sweep of Saint Mary's to get the better of a matchup between the conference's two lone unbeaten teams. The Cobbers limited the top-

scoring team in the conference to just three goals in two games, with sophomore goalie Alex Reichle (Wildwood, Mo./Eureka) starring between the pipes for Concordia. Reichle was 2-0 with 46 saves, a .939 save percentage, a 1.50 goals against average and his first collegiate shutout in the two wins. For his performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Reichle Monday with the MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Reichle's big weekend started with 27 saves and three goals allowed in Friday's 6-3 win over SMU. However, he saved his best for the weekend finale, as he stopped all 19 shots he faced to shut out the powerful Cardinal offense in a 2-0 Concordia victory. It was the first time in 28 games that Saint Mary's had failed to score at least one goal. This season, Reichle ranks in the top five in the MIAC in wins (five), saves (213), save percentage (.906) and goals against average (2.87) overall, and he leads the MIAC with a 1.50 GAA, a .950 save percentage and a perfect 1.000 win percentage in conference play.

Thanks to the huge sweep, the Cobbers are off to a perfect 4-0 start in conference play and are 5-3 overall. Concordia has 12 points in the MIAC standings, and trails only St. Thomas, which has played two more games. It's the first time the Cobbers have started 4-0 in the MIAC since 1999-2000. Reichle and company hope to stay hot with three more games on the 2015 portion of the schedule. Concordia will head to UW-Stout for a 7:30 p.m. game on Friday, and it will play two at Northland College on Dec. 18-19 to close out the month.



MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

**Angel Hillstrom, Saint Benedict
Robbinsdale, Minn. / Cooper**

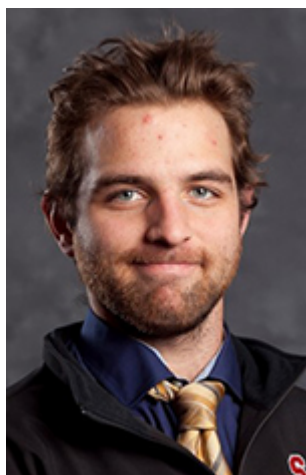
The Saint Benedict women's hockey team had its most impressive weekend of the 2015-16 to date, taking three of four points - including a 3-2 Saturday upset win - from No. 9-ranked Gustavus. Leading the way was first-year goalie Angel Hillstrom (Robbinsdale, Minn. / Cooper), who played well beyond her years with 75 saves, a .949 save percentage and a 1.66 goals against average to go 1-0-1 in the net against the Gusties. For her performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Hillstrom Monday with the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Hillstrom's big weekend began Friday in a 2-2 overtime tie with Gustavus. She kept her team in it by making 37 saves and allowing just two goals in 64:55 of ice time. She was even better Saturday as this time Saint Benedict got the game-winner in overtime to pull off the 3-2 upset. Hillstrom made 38 saves, again allowed two goals and kept the Gusties in check for her 79:43 of ice time. This season, Hillstrom leads the MIAC with 204 saves - including 170 in conference play - and has a .944 save percentage and a 2.00 goals against average. She ranks in the top eight in the MIAC in all three categories both overall and in conference play.

With the three-point weekend, Saint Benedict is now 2-5-1 overall and 1-4-1 in MIAC play with three points in the conference standings. The Blazers hope the momentum from their big upset will carry them in a big home nonconference series this weekend, as they host Concordia-Wis. for a pair of games. Friday's game will start at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday's will begin at 1:30 p.m. The team will then take the rest of 2015 off before returning to action on Jan. 8, 2016.

MIAC Hockey Athletes-of-the-Week - Dec. 14, 2015

Posted: Dec 14, 2015



MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

**Tyson Fulton, Saint John's
Champlin, Minn. / Breck**

The Saint John's men's hockey team scored an impressive victory Saturday with a solid 7-2 win over No. 15-ranked St. Scholastica. Johnnie senior Tyson Fulton (Champlin, Minn./Breck) had a huge impact in his first game at

forward in more than a year with three points, including an assist on the eventual game-winning goal. For his performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Fulton Monday with the MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Fulton recently moved back to forward from the blue line, and it didn't take long for him to make his presence felt. He scored his goal - SJU's first of the game - just 4:19 in. However, he wasn't done there. Fulton also assisted on the eventual game-winner, and then added another assist on a goal that sparked three Saint John's tallies in a span of just 48 seconds as they sealed the impressive upset victory. This season, Fulton has a plus-two rating, and Saturday's three points were his first of the season.

Thanks to Saturday's impressive victory, Saint John's improved to 4-7-2 overall, and the team still sits at .500 in conference play at 3-3. The Johnnies will now enjoy nearly a month-long break from competition for finals and the holiday season. Saint John's returns to the ice with a pair of Wisconsin road games at UW-River Falls and UW-Superior on Jan. 8-9, respectively.



MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

**Kenzie Torpy, St. Thomas
Oregon, Wis. / Oregon**

The St. Thomas women's hockey team kept rolling last week with a trio of impressive wins against nonconference foes from Wisconsin. First-year goalie Kenzie Torpy (Oregon, Wis.) was remarkable between the pipes, as she earned all three wins while allowing just two goals in 180 minutes. She recorded two shutouts, 69 saves, a .972 save percentage and a 0.67 goals against average in the three wins. For her performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Torpy Monday with the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award.

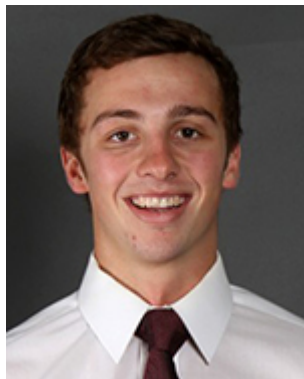
Torpy's big week started with a 16-save shutout in a narrow 1-0 road win at UW-Eau Claire Wednesday. She followed that up with 21 saves in another 1-0 win Friday, this time against UW-Stevens Point. Torpy kept the Pointers off the scoreboard for the first two periods in Saturday's 6-2 win as well, giving her 10-straight periods without a goal. That streak ended in the third when UWSP scored twice with an extra attacker when the game was well in hand, and she finished with 32 saves and the two goals allowed. This season, Torpy is 9-0-1 to lead the MIAC in wins, and she ranks second in saves (237), fifth in goals against average (1.54) and seventh in save percentage (.937).

Thanks to the big nonconference sweep, St. Thomas extended its winning streak to six in a row, and it hasn't lost in its last eight games (7-0-1). UST is now 9-1-1 overall and 4-1-1 in the MIAC, and tied for second place with nine points. The Tommies will take more than a month off for finals and the holiday season before returning to the ice to take on Saint Mary's in a MIAC home-and-home series on Jan. 16-17.



MIAC Hockey Athletes-of-the-Week - Jan. 11, 2016

Posted: Jan 11, 2016



MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

**Nate Flynn, Augsburg
Hastings, Minn. /
Hastings**

While temperatures plummeted in Minnesota, Nate Flynn (Hastings, Minn.) and the Augsburg men's hockey team stayed red-hot with a sweep of Bethel to extend its

winning streak to five in a row. Flynn's playmaking ability had a huge hand in the sweep, as his four-point weekend - two goals and two assists - led all Auggie skaters. For his performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Flynn Monday with the MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Flynn helped Augsburg score a 5-2 home win over the Royals Friday with an assist and five shots, and he played an even bigger role in Saturday's road rematch. The Auggie sophomore forward had two goals and assist on six shots in the sweep-sealing 6-4 win over Bethel on Saturday on the Royals' home ice. Flynn scored the game's first goal 6:48 in, then assisted and scored again in the third period to help the Auggies seal the win. This season, Flynn leads the team with 20 points on 10 goals and 10 assists. His point and goal totals rank fourth in the MIAC and his assists are eight-best in the league in 2015-16.

Thanks to the sweep, Augsburg improved to 9-4 overall and 5-1 in conference play, and its 15 points are good for second place in the MIAC standings. Augsburg's five-game winning streak is the seventh-longest active unbeaten streak in Division III and tops in the MIAC, and the team has won eight of its last nine. Flynn and friends hope to keep the streak alive this weekend with a pair of nonconference home games. UW-Eau Claire visits Minneapolis Friday for a 7:05 p.m. game, and Augsburg will host UW-Stevens Point on Saturday at 4:05 p.m.



MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

**Kayla Fuechtmann, Augsburg
Circle Pines, Minn. / Centennial**

The Augsburg women's hockey team certainly started 2016 in style, as it scored 11 goals en route to a nonconference sweep of Stevenson (Md.), which entered the weekend with a near-perfect 11-1-1 record. Leading the way was senior captain Kayla Fuechtmann (Circle Pines, Minn./Centennial), who scored three goals - including Saturday's game-winner - to reach the 50-point plateau for her career. For her performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Fuechtmann Monday with the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Fuechtmann and the Auggies got off to a high-flying start Friday with a 7-2 win over Stevenson. The senior forward netted two of the team's seven goals and finished the game with a plus-three rating. She came up big again a day later, as she scored the eventual game-winning goal in a 4-2 victory on Saturday to secure the sweep. Fuechtmann now has 31 goals and 20 assists in her career for a total of 51 points. This season, she has four goals and three assists for seven points, and leads a balanced Augsburg offensive attack that features 10 players all with four or more points.

Thanks to the two wins, Augsburg is now 7-5-1 overall, and the team remains tied for second place in the MIAC with nine points and a 4-1-1 conference record. The Auggies, who have won four of their last six, hope to stay hot with a huge MIAC series against Bethel on tap this weekend. Friday's game will be on the Royals' home ice at 7 p.m., with Saturday's rematch at Augsburg at 7 p.m.

MIAC Hockey Athletes-of-the-Week - Jan. 18, 2016

Posted: Jan 18, 2016



MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

Travis Payne, Bethel Gaylord, Mich. / Sault Area

The Bethel men's hockey team had an outstanding week against some tough out-of-conference opposition with a 1-0-1 record against foes from Wisconsin. Senior wing Travis Payne (Gaylord, Mich. / Sault Area) had a career weekend with six

goals in the two games, including a hat trick and a game-winner and both goals in a 2-2 tie against a top 15-ranked team. For his performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Payne Monday with the MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Payne entered the weekend with four goals in 2015-16, but more than doubled his total with his starring performance. Friday, he scored twice to single-handedly help the Royals earn a hard-fought 2-2 tie against 13th-ranked UW-River Falls. Then, Saturday, he reached a hat trick by the end of the first period and finished with four goals, including the game-winner, in a 6-2 rout of UW-Superior. Payne was almost perfect, as his six goals came on just eight shots, and he was 4-for-4 against the Yellowjackets. This season, Payne is tied for fourth in the MIAC with 10 goals, and his 15 points are tied for 11th-most.

The 1-0-1 record helped Bethel improve its overall record to 2-10-2 this season. The Royals are currently 1-5 in conference play with three points in the MIAC standings. Payne and company will hope to carry this momentum over in their return to conference play, as the team will face Saint John's in a home-and-home MIAC series Thursday and Saturday. Thursday's game will be on SJU's home ice at the National Hockey Center at 7 p.m., and the Royals will host Saturday's rematch at the Schwan Super Rink, also at 7 p.m.



MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

Elli Marvin, Saint Benedict Shoreview, Minn. / Mounds View

The Saint Benedict women's hockey team earned an impressive MIAC sweep to highlight a 2-1 performance last week, led by Elli Marvin's (Shoreview, Minn. / Mounds View) offensive explosion. The junior forward more than doubled her season totals with five goals - including four in conference play and one game-winner - and two assists for a total of seven points in the three games. For her performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Marvin Monday with the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Marvin starred throughout the Blazers' MIAC sweep of St. Olaf, with four goals and two assists in the two wins. Friday she had two goals and an assist in a 5-2 road win on the Oles' home ice, then she put up the same exact stats - including the game-winning goal - in Saturday's 3-2 victory at home to complete the sweep. Marvin started her huge week by scoring the team's lone goal in an 11-1 loss to No. 9 UW-River

Falls on Wednesday. The Blazer forward is now tied for fifth in the MIAC in goals (eight) and points (12), and she leads her team in points, goals and assists (four).

The 2-1 performance last week helped Saint Benedict improve to 5-9-1 overall, and the sweep brought the team closer to .500 in conference play at 3-4-1. The Blazers have seven points and are locked in a three-way tie for sixth place, just one spot out of MIAC Playoff contention. The team has a big MIAC series coming up this weekend against Bethel, with the Royals hosting Friday's game at 7 p.m. and Saint Benedict hosting Saturday's rematch at Dave Torrey Arena at 3 p.m.

MIAC Hockey Athletes-of-the-Week - Jan. 25, 2016

Posted: Jan 25, 2016



MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

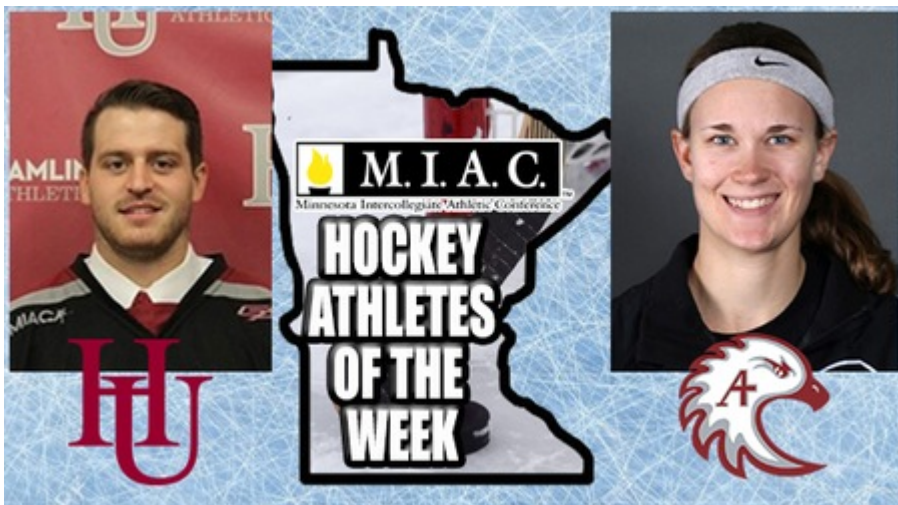
Charlie Adams, Hamline Mahtomedi, Minn. / Mahtomedi

The Hamline men's hockey team scored a split over the weekend in a highly-entertaining MIAC Playoff championship game rematch with Saint Mary's, with senior forward Charlie Adams (Mahtomedi, Minn.)

continuing to put up huge scoring numbers. Adams had a seven-point weekend with two goals and five assists, including a six-point performance in Friday's overtime victory. For his performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Adams Monday with the MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Adams' huge night Friday played a huge role in Hamline's 6-5 overtime victory on the Pipers' home ice. He scored two goals and assisted on the other four, including an assist on the overtime game-winner. He added an assist to his impressive weekend totals in Saturday's 5-3 road loss. This season, Adams leads the MIAC with 23 assists, 38 points and six power-play goals, and is ranked second in goals (15). He has the same ranks in conference play with eight goals and 12 assists for 20 points. He shares the national lead in points (38) with teammate Brandon Zurn and is second in assists (23).

The split of the MIAC Playoff championship rematch moved Hamline's overall record to 6-9-4, and the team is 3-6-1 in conference play. The Pipers have 11 points and are currently in sixth place and in the mix to return to the MIAC Playoffs. Hamline hopes to build on its strong play with a big MIAC series against Bethel on the schedule this weekend. Friday the Pipers host the Royals at Oscar Johnson Arena at 7 p.m., and the rematch is set for Bethel's home ice at Schwan Super Rink Saturday at 7 p.m.



MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

Erika Allen, Augsburg Roseville, Minn. / Roseville

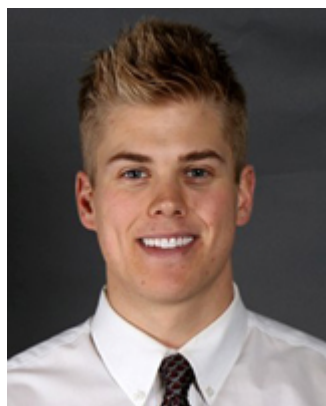
The Augsburg women's hockey team continued their recent hot streak with a pair of shutout wins to sweep a huge MIAC series against Concordia. Senior goalie Erika Allen (Roseville, Minn.) was a wall in front of the net, stopping all 48 shots she faced for a perfect 1.000 save percentage, a 0.00 goals against average and a pair of shutout wins. For her performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Allen Monday with the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Allen recorded 27 saves Friday to lead the Auggies to a 3-0 win over the Cobbers and turned in a deja-vu result Saturday, making 21 more saves to lead her team to yet another 3-0 shutout win over Concordia. This marked Allen's second- and third-straight shutouts, which mark the first time Augsburg has shut out three-straight varsity opponents in a row in program history. This season, Allen is third in the MIAC in wins (eight), fourth in goals against average (1.63), fifth in saves (307) and eighth in save percentage (.933). She's even better in conference play, ranked second in wins (seven) and saves (226), third in goals against average (1.41) and fifth in save percentage (.942).

Thanks to the big sweep, Augsburg has now won three in a row and five of its last six while improving to 10-6-1 overall to surpass the win total (nine) from each of the past two seasons. The Auggies are 7-2-1 in conference play, and alone in second place with 15 points. Augsburg and its star goalie hope to continue the hot streak this weekend with a big MIAC series against Saint Mary's. The Auggies host Friday's game at 2 p.m., with the rematch set for 2 p.m. Saturday in Winona, Minn.

MIAC Hockey Athletes-of-the-Week - Feb. 1, 2016

Posted: Feb 01, 2016



MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

**Jordyn Kaufer,
Augsburg
Stillwater, Minn. /
Stillwater**

The Augsburg men's hockey team scored a big MIAC sweep of Saint Mary's over the weekend - outscoring the Cardinals 9-1 - to remain in first place and

put a little distance between themselves and the MIAC's other top contenders. Sophomore goalie Jordyn Kaufer (Stillwater, Minn.) was outstanding in the net in the sweep with a 2-0 record and 50 saves on 51 shots. He had one shutout, a 0.50 goals against average (GAA) and a .980 save percentage. For his performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Kaufer Monday with the MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Kaufer's impressive weekend came against the MIAC's top-scoring team, as SMU entered the weekend averaging 4.3 goals per game. He allowed just one goal while making 21 saves Friday in a 4-1 win, and was even better Saturday. On the Auggies' home ice, Kaufer stopped all 29 shots he faced to shut out the Cardinals in a 5-0 victory that secured the sweep. This season, Kaufer is 11-4 and ranked second in the MIAC with a 2.19 GAA, and third with a .917 save percentage. His 11 wins are tied for the second-most in all of Division III.

Thanks to the big sweep, Augsburg improved to 12-6-1 overall and 8-1-1 in conference play. The Auggies have 25 points, and a four-point lead atop the MIAC standings. Kaufer and company have another big series ahead this weekend against defending MIAC Playoff champion Hamline. Augsburg will host Friday's game at 7 p.m., and Saturday's rematch will be played on the Pipers' home ice at Oscar Johnson Arena at 7 p.m. as well.



MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

**Angel Hillstrom, Saint Benedict
Robbinsdale, Minn. / Cooper**

The Saint Benedict women's hockey team had one of the biggest weekends in program history with a two-game sweep of No. 4-ranked St. Thomas behind outstanding goaltending by Angel Hillstrom (Robbinsdale, Minn./Cooper). The first-year goalie made 85 saves in two games with a .944 save percentage and a 2.50 goals against average (GAA) to lead the Blazers to a pair of huge upsets over the Tommies, leading to the first CSB sweep of UST since 1999-2000. For her performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Hillstrom Monday with the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award.

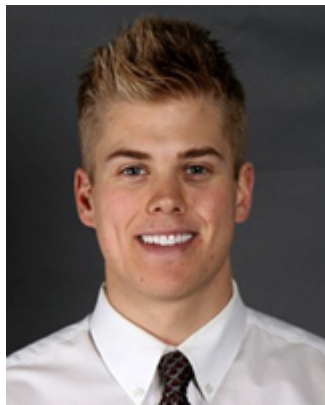
Hillstrom was certainly busy in the net in Friday's 3-2 win at St. Thomas Ice Arena. She stopped 37 of 39 shots for a .949 save percentage to keep her team in contention despite being out-shot 39-18. She was even better Saturday, stopping a career-high 48 shots (.941 save percentage) to lead the Blazers to a 5-3 win at home to finish off the sweep. This season, Hillstrom has had a breakout rookie campaign, as she leads the MIAC with 432 saves and ranks fifth in the conference with a .935 save percentage.

Thanks to the big sweep, Saint Benedict improved to 7-11-1 overall and nearly evened its conference record at 5-6-1. The Blazers currently have 11 points in the MIAC standings, and are tied for seventh place, just one point out of sixth. Hillstrom and company hope to keep the momentum rolling this weekend with a big MIAC home-and-home series against St. Catherine. CSB will host Friday's game at 7:30 p.m. at Bernicks Arena in Sartell, Minn., and the Wildcats will host Saturday's rematch at Drake Arena in St. Paul at 2 p.m.



MIAC Hockey Athletes-of-the-Week - Feb. 8, 2016

Posted: Feb 08, 2016



MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

Jordyn Kaufer,
Augsburg
Stillwater, Minn. /
Stillwater

Both the Augsburg men's hockey team and sophomore goalie Jordyn Kaufer (Stillwater, Minn.) continued their red-hot play over the weekend,

as the Auggies used a sweep of Hamline to remain in first place and lock up a MIAC Playoff bid. Kaufer stopped 71 of the 73 shots he faced to earn a pair of wins over the Pipers with a 1.00 goals against average, a .973 save percentage and one shutout. For his performance between the pipes, the MIAC sports information directors honored Kaufer with the MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award for the second-straight week.

Kaufer got plenty of offense in a strong start to the weekend, as he made 28 saves and surrendered just two goals in Friday's 8-2 home win over Hamline. However, his best was yet to come. Saturday, the Auggie sophomore stopped all 43 shots he faced to earn his second shutout of the season in a dramatic 2-0 win on the Pipers' home ice. Kaufer has now won five-straight games in goal, with just six goals allowed during that span. This season, Kaufer's 13 wins lead both the conference and the nation, and he leads the MIAC in goals-against average (2.05), save percentage (.926) and win percentage (.765), and he ranks fifth in saves with 437. He's even better in conference play with a 2.00 GAA, .929 save percentage and .909 winning percentage.

Thanks to the big sweep, Augsburg is now 14-6-1 overall and 10-1-1 in conference play. The team has 31 points in the MIAC standings and a four-point lead over second-place St. Thomas, and was the first team to earn a spot in the five-team MIAC Playoffs. The Auggies and Tommies will meet in a highly-anticipated matchup of the top two teams in the standings this weekend, with Augsburg hosting Friday's game at 7:05 p.m., and the Tommies hosting Saturday's rematch at 7 p.m. at St. Thomas Ice Arena.



MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

Claire Cripps, Augsburg
Hutchinson, Minn. / Hutchinson

The Augsburg women's hockey team continued its tremendous play in 2016 with a dominant sweep of Twin Cities rival Hamline over the weekend. Senior forward Claire Cripps (Hutchinson, Minn.) led a strong offensive performance with six points (two goals, four assists) as the Auggies out-scored the Pipers 9-0 over the course of the two wins. For her performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Cripps Monday with the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Cripps' playmaking set the tone for the series, as she had a hand in four of Augsburg's five goals in Friday's 5-0 road win over Hamline. She finished with one goal and three assists and a plus-three rating in the victory. She added another goal and an assists Saturday in a 4-0 Auggie win on their home ice to complete the sweep, and Cripps finished her strong weekend with an overall plus-six rating while she was

on the ice. This season, Cripps has 12 points on four goals and eight assists and an overall rating of plus-six. Her seven assists in conference play rank fifth in the MIAC.

Thanks to the two shutout wins, Augsburg improved to 12-7-2 overall and 9-3-2 in conference play. The Auggies have 20 points to sit atop the MIAC standings, one point ahead of St. Thomas and two points in front of Concordia and Bethel. Augsburg and the Tommies will battle for first place this weekend with their head-to-head MIAC series on tap. UST will host Friday's game at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday's game will be on the Auggies' home ice at 4 p.m.



MIAC Hockey Athletes-of-the-Week - Feb. 15, 2016

Posted: Feb 15, 2016



MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

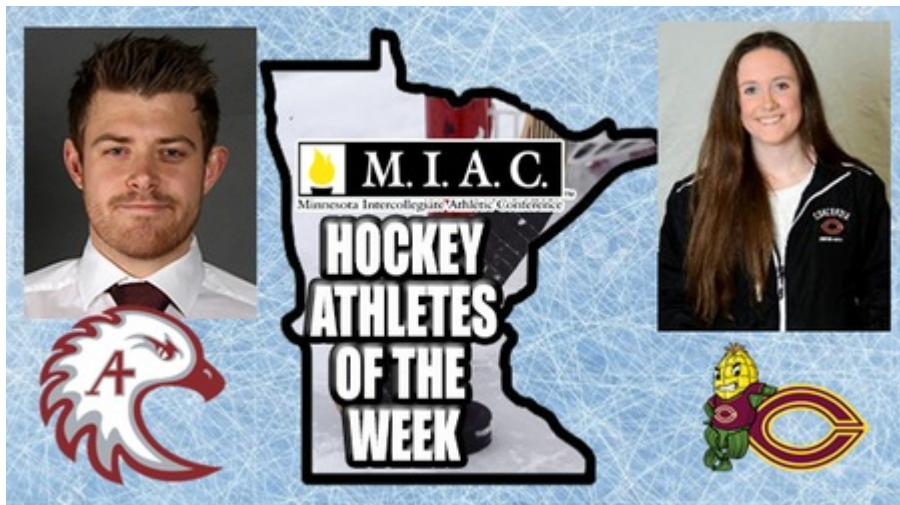
**Max Pernhem, Augsburg
Stockholm, Sweden
/ Dragonskolan**

The Augsburg men's hockey team took five of six points in a huge MIAC series against St. Thomas to lock up the Auggies first conference

championships since 1998. Sophomore defender Max Pernhem (Stockholm, Sweden / Dragonskolan) came up big against the Tommies with a goal in each game, and outstanding play on the blue line to help his team wrap up the title and the top seed in the MIAC Playoffs. For his performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Pernhem Monday with the MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Pernhem's big weekend began Friday, as he scored a power play goal 14:30 into the second period to give his team a 1-0 lead. St. Thomas would answer to tie it at 1-1, and eventually Augsburg took a 2-1 win in the shootout to come away with two points. Pernhem also started the scoring in Saturday's 4-0 win, as his goal 14:40 into the second was the eventual game-winner. He also helped the Auggies kill all eight UST power play opportunities, and the team has now killed 44-straight penalties and hasn't allowed a power play goal in 11-straight games. This season, Pernhem has eight points on three goals and five assists and has an overall rating of plus-six when he's on the ice. He's tied for fourth in the MIAC with two game-winning goals.

Thanks to the five-point weekend, Augsburg improved to 15-6-2 overall and 11-1-2 in the MIAC with 36 points atop the standings. The Auggies clinched the MIAC regular-season title and will enjoy home-ice advantage as the No. 1 seed in the MIAC Playoffs. The MIAC champs will close the regular season with another big series against a postseason-bound opponent, as the team hosts Saint John's Friday at 7:05 p.m., and travels to St. Cloud for the rematch on Saturday at 7 p.m.



MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

**Tori Davis, Concordia
Sabin, Minn. / Moorhead**

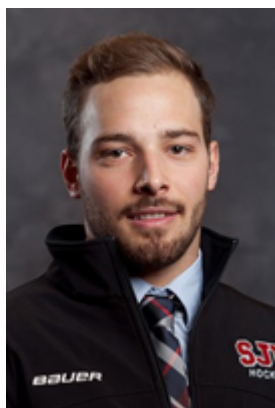
The Concordia women's hockey team - led by Tori Davis (Sabin, Minn. / Moorhead) used a sweep of St. Olaf to lock up a MIAC Playoff bid and stay in contention for the conference championship. Davis, a sophomore forward, had a hand in six of the Cobbers' seven goals against the Oles, including a hat trick Saturday to complete the sweep. For her performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Davis Monday with the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Davis started the weekend with an impressive one-goal, two-assist performance to help her team pull out a hard-fought 4-2 victory over visiting St. Olaf on Friday night. However, she was just getting warmed up, as she scored all three goals in Saturday's 3-0 win to complete the sweep and record a memorable hat trick as her team locked up its postseason spot. Davis finished with a plus-four rating for the weekend, and she now leads the MIAC in goals with 16 and is second in points with 21 after only recording seven points a season ago.

Thanks to the sweep, Concordia improved to 13-9-1 overall and 11-5 in conference play. The Cobbers have 22 points and are tied with Bethel for second place, just one point behind first-place St. Thomas with two games to play. Fittingly, the Cobbers and Royals will meet head-to-head as both hope for a sweep and some help to overtake the Tommies for the MIAC title. Both games will be played on Bethel's home ice at the Schwan Super Rink in Blaine, Minn., with Friday's contest starting at 7 p.m., and the puck will drop for the regular-season finale Saturday at 2 p.m.

MIAC Hockey Athletes-of-the-Week - Feb. 22, 2016

Posted: Feb 22, 2016



MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

**Huba Sekesi, Saint John's
Germering, Germany / Carl-Spitzweg-Gymnasium**

The Saint John's men's hockey team closed the regular season in impressive fashion while building plenty of momentum for the

upcoming MIAC Playoffs. The Johnnies and Huba Sekesi (Germering, Germany / Carl-Spitzweg-Gymnasium) swept MIAC champion Augsburg, with the sophomore forward notching a goal and an assist in each game, including the game-winner in Friday's come-from-behind victory. For his performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Sekesi Monday with the final MIAC Men's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award of the 2015-16 season.

SJU found itself down 3-0 to the Auggies early in Friday's contest, but Sekesi assisted on a power play goal and scored the eventual game-winner as the Johnnies rallied to score five unanswered in a 5-3 comeback win. The next night, Sekesi scored Saint John's first goal and added another power-play assist in a 4-2 win over Augsburg to cap the regular season. Sekesi finished the regular season with 24 points on nine goals and 15 assists, and he was tied for eighth in points and finished sixth in assists. In conference play, he finished tied for third in points (19) and third in assists (12) despite missing two MIAC games.

The Johnnies used the sweep of the Auggies to finish the regular season with a 12-9-4 overall record, and the team was third with 33 points - just three back of Augsburg and one behind second-place St. Thomas - with a 10-4-2 MIAC mark. Sekesi and company are the No. 3 seed in the MIAC Playoffs, and will open the postseason Saturday with a trip to face the rival Tommies in the semifinals at 7 p.m. at St. Thomas Ice Arena in Mendota Heights, Minn. The two semifinal winners will meet on Saturday, March 5, in the championship game.



MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week

**Lauren Kolak, Bethel
Lino Lakes, Minn. / Centennial**

The Bethel women's hockey team made history over the weekend, as the Royals swept Concordia to earn a share of their first-ever MIAC regular-season championship. Junior forward Lauren Kolak (Lino Lakes, Minn. / Centennial) had a five-point weekend with three goals and two assists to lead Bethel to its co-conference championship. For her performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Kolak Monday with the final MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week award of the 2015-16 season.

The Royals and Cobbers entered the final weekend tied for second, a point behind St. Thomas, but Bethel out-scored Concordia 8-0 in the two wins (3-0 Friday, 5-0 Saturday) to earn its share of the title. Kolak had a goal and an assist in Friday's win, and scored twice with another assist on Saturday to lead her team to the sweep and finish with a plus-five rating for the weekend. Kolak closed the regular season with 15 points on 10 goals

and five assists, and her rating of plus-13 ranked fifth in the MIAC. In conference play, she was second with a plus-14, and her nine MIAC goals ranked fifth in the league.

The big sweep of the Cobbers, combined with a St. Thomas tie in the final weekend left the Tommies and Royals tied at 26 points atop the standings as co-champions. Bethel closed the regular season with a 14-9-2 overall record, a 12-4-2 MIAC mark and an 8-0-2 home record against conference foes. The Royals will be the No. 2 seed in the MIAC Playoffs, and will host No. 3-seeded Augsburg Saturday in a semifinal game at 2 p.m. at the Schwan Super Rink in Blaine, Minn. The winner will advance to the March 5 championship game, with Bethel hoping to reach the title game for the second-straight season.

