

Tommies' Torpy headlines MIAC Women's Hockey awards

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BLOOMINGTON, Minn. – The Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) announced its award honorees for the 2018-19 Women's Hockey season on Monday.

St. Thomas senior goalie **Kenzie Torpy** and her coach, **Tom Palkowski**, claimed the conference's top individual on-ice awards, while Augsburg senior forward **Megan Johnson** received the prestigious Sheila Brown Award.

Torpy (Sr. | Oregon, Wis.) earned MIAC Player of the Year honors after an outstanding regular season in which she all led MIAC goalies in goals against (22), goals-against average (0.87), save percentage (.955), shutouts (11), and wins (23). Torpy was among the nation's best in all of those categories as well and is now tied for the most shutouts in all of NCAA hockey this season - men's and women's, regardless of division - with 12 following UST's 4-0 victory over Gustavus in the MIAC Semifinals this past Saturday. Torpy has 21 career shutouts and 66 career wins - the latter being more than any women's hockey goalie in MIAC history. Torpy is the fourth consecutive Tommie to win MIAC Player of the Year honors, joining former teammates Allison Borgstrom (2018) and Kathryn Larson (2016, 2017), and the first-ever goalie on record to be honored with this award.



Palkowski was recognized as MIAC Coach of the Year by his peers after leading St. Thomas to its second consecutive regular season conference title and a 22-1-2 record during the 2017-18 campaign - UST's fourth 20-win season under his watch. Palkowski's Tommies enjoyed an NCAA-best 37-game unbeaten streak from December 2017 through February 2019 with nearly two-thirds of those contests taking place this season. This is Palkowski's second MIAC Coach of the Year honor, having previously won the award following the 2013-14 season.

Johnson (Sr. | Madison, Wis. | Memorial) was selected as the recipient of the Sheila Brown Award. Named for the longtime St. Catherine University athletic director, the Sheila Brown Award is presented each year to a senior women's hockey student-athlete who has made a long-term contribution to her team's success while consistently displaying good sportsmanship in competition. The honoree is selected based on team leadership, sportsmanship, volunteer work, academic excellence, and hockey skills and production.

Augsburg's Johnson was chosen by MIAC coaches as the student-athlete most representative of those qualities this season. A math major with minors in physics and management information systems, Johnson has maintained a 3.9 grade-point average as an Auggie and earned the MIAC's prestigious Elite 22 award for academic excellence in 2017. She has served as a calculus supplementary instructor and physics tutor in the classroom for the last four years and was selected as a team captain on the ice for the last two seasons. An impact player all four seasons at Augsburg, Johnson has totaled 31 goals and 28 assists in her playing career, earning honorable mention All-MIAC accolades twice before being named to the All-Conference team as a senior in 2019. She has also been a difference-maker in the community, volunteering with Special Olympics Minnesota, Feed My Starving Children, and Athletes in Action during her time as an Auggie.

In addition to individual awards, MIAC coaches also voted on All-Conference and All-Rookie Teams. Twenty-one MIAC student-athletes were selected to the All-Conference Team, with an additional eleven garnering honorable mention accolades. Seven first-year players received All-Rookie honors.

Five players - Gustavus' **Amanda DiNella**, Hamline's **Leah Schwartzman** and **Bre Simon**, St. Catherine's **Tori Thompson**, and St. Thomas' **Demi Cooper** - were named All-MIAC for the third time in their careers. Five more - Augsburg's **Nikki Nightengale** and **Bridget Wagner**, and St. Thomas' **Heidi Hannula**, **Kenzie Torpy**, and **Rachel Werdin** - were back-to-back All-Conference honorees.

As part of a Conference-wide sportsmanship initiative, the MIAC also announced the 13th-annual All-MIAC Sportsmanship team for women's hockey. Members of the All-MIAC Sportsmanship team are selected by their coaches as individuals who demonstrate ideals of positive sportsmanship both on and off the field of competition.

2018-19 MIAC WOMEN'S HOCKEY AWARDS

Player of the Year: Kenzie Torpy, St. Thomas (Sr. | G | Oregon, Wis.)

Sheila Brown Award: Megan Johnson, Augsburg (Sr. | F | Madison, Wis. | Memorial)

Coach of the Year: Tom Palkowski, St. Thomas (12th season)

2019 MIAC Women's Hockey All-Conference Team

Position	Name	Institution	Class	Hometown High School
F	Megan Johnson	Augsburg	Sr.	Madison, Wis. Memorial
F	Bridget Wagner	Augsburg	Jr.	Niles, Ill. Maine South
F	Bri Stafne	Bethel	So.	Duluth, Minn. Hermantown
F	Bailey Thompson	Bethel	Jr.	Forest Lake, Minn. Mounds View
F	Allie Stanger	Gustavus	Sr.	Paynesville, Minn.
F	Amelia Vosen	Gustavus	Jr.	Nowthen, Minn. Totino-Grace
F	Jordan Hansen	Hamline	So.	White Bear Lake, Minn. Cretin-Derham Hall
F	Molly Garin	Hamline	Fy.	Mound, Minn. Holy Family
F	Leah Schwartzman	Hamline	Sr.	Hopkins, Minn. Breck
F	Bre Simon	Hamline	Jr.	Elk River, Minn.
F	Maddy Fiedler	St. Thomas	So.	Chanhassen, Minn.
F	Alyssa Wallace	St. Thomas	So.	Newport, Minn. East Ridge
F	Rachel Werdin	St. Thomas	Jr.	Eden Prairie, Minn.
D	Nikki Nightengale	Augsburg	Jr.	Bloomington, Minn. Jefferson
D	Dani Wright	Hamline	Jr.	Farmington, Minn.
D	Tori Thompson	St. Catherine	Sr.	Rochester, Minn. John Marshall
D	Natalie Ryan	Saint Mary's	Jr.	Lakewood, Ill. Chicago Young Americans
D	Demi Cooper	St. Thomas	Sr.	Mendota Heights, Minn. Henry Sibley
D	Heidi Hannula	St. Thomas	Sr.	Coon Rapids, Minn.
G	Amanda DiNella	Gustavus	Sr.	Oakbrook Terrace, Ill. Willowbrook
G	Kenzie Torpy	St. Thomas	Sr.	Oregon, Wis.

2019 MIAC Women's Hockey Honorable Mention

Position	Name	Institution	Class	Hometown High School
F	Megan Dondelinger	Concordia	Sr.	Bemidji, Minn.
F	Courtney Conlin	Saint Benedict	Jr.	St. Paul, Minn. Mounds View
F	Laken Muller	St. Catherine	Sr.	Inver Grove Heights, Minn. Simley
F	Brede Postier	St. Catherine	Sr.	Byron, Minn. Dodge County
F	Bailey Wendt	Saint Mary's	Sr.	Coon Rapids, Minn. Maple Grove
F	Xandi Swedberg	St. Olaf	Sr.	Edina, Minn. Benilde-St. Margaret's
D	Valerie Whichello	Augsburg	Sr.	Woodbury, Minn. East Ridge
D	Mackenzie Molnar	Augsburg	Jr.	Inver Grove Heights, Minn. Cretin-Derham Hall
D	Kennedi Mitchell	Bethel	So.	Elk River, Minn.
D	Callie Fagerstrom	Concordia	So.	Thief River Falls, Minn.
D	Dani Perry	Hamline	Jr.	Cottage Grove, Minn. Park

2019 MIAC Women's Hockey All-Rookie Team

Position	Name	Institution	Class	Hometown High School
F	Molly Garin	Hamline	Fy.	Mound, Minn. Holy Family
F	Shea McLean	St. Thomas	So.*	Elk River, Minn.
F	Anna Solheim	St. Thomas	Fy.	Shoreview, Minn. Mounds View

D	Kayla Vrieze	Gustavus	Fy.	Eagan, Minn.
D	Rae Robert	Hamline	Fy.	Mounds View, Minn.
G	Emily Musielewicz	Concordia	Fy.	Richmond, Minn. St. Cloud Tech
G	Jaela O'Brien	Hamline	Fy.	Blaine, Minn.

*First year of collegiate competition

2019 MIAC Women's Hockey All-Sportsmanship Team

Position	Name	Institution	Class	Hometown High School
G	McKenna Manalli	Augsburg	Sr.	Byron, Ill.
F	Kirsten Olson	Bethel	Sr.	Buffalo, Minn.
F	Sage Barta	Concordia	Sr.	Bismarck, N.D. St. Mary's
G	Paige Press	Gustavus	Sr.	Cottage Grove, Minn. Park
D	Julia Buffalini	Hamline	Sr.	Pittsburgh, Pa. Mars
G	Julia Carle	Saint Benedict	Sr.	North St. Paul, Minn. Minnehaha Academy
F	Allie Guzy	St. Catherine	Sr.	Blaine, Minn. Spring Lake Park
G	Ashley Corcoran	Saint Mary's	Sr.	Red Wing, Minn.
D	Kalli McCullen	St. Olaf	Sr.	Bloomington, Minn. Kennedy
G	Kalli Engen	St. Thomas	So.	Shakopee, Minn.