

2002-03 MIAC Men's Basketball Athletes of the Week

March 3, 2003

Gustavus Adolphus College junior wing **Tim Brown** (Bloomington, Minn./Jefferson HS) averaged 16.0 points and 4.0 rebounds per game to help the Gusties win the MIAC Playoff Championship with a 65-64 win over Bethel and a 62-36 win over St. Thomas. In the semifinal win over Bethel, Brown scored 17 points on 7-of-10 shooting from the field. Ten of Brown's 17 points came in the second half as the Gusties came from behind to nip the Royals 65-64. In the championship win over St. Thomas, Brown scored 15 points on 6-of-12 shooting from the field. He scored nine of his 15 points in the first half as the Gusties took a 13-point lead (32-29) into the intermission. Brown leads the Gusties in scoring this season with an average of 14.3 points per game. Gustavus, which is currently 21-6 overall, will host Whitworth College of Spokane, Wash. in the first round of the NCAA Tournament on Thursday, March 6 at 7:30 pm. Stats for the Week: 13 of 22 FG, 4-10 3 pt. FG, 2-2 FT, 8 rebounds, 4 assists, 3 TO, 72 minutes played.

February 24, 2003

University of St. Thomas first-year guard **Sean Sweeney** (St. Paul, Minn./Cretin-Derham Hall) had a career-high 30 points and six assists in Saturday's 84-74 win over Bethel that let the Toms claim the outright MIAC championship. It was an extremely rare 30-point outing by a freshman in a conference game. Sweeney made 8-of-9 shots in the first half, including all four 3-point tries, and finished the game making 12-of-16 from the field. After Bethel tied the game 50-50, Sweeney had six points and two assists to lead a 22-8 run. In Wednesday's triple-overtime loss at St. Olaf, Sweeney played a game-high 52 minutes and had 20 points, five assists and four rebounds. The Tommies, 7-1 in February, climbed to 20-5 overall and host a semifinal playoff game Thursday night. Sweeney's two-game totals: 82 minutes, 50 points, 11 assists, 6 rebounds, 6 turnovers, two steals, 21-39 FG, 6-11 3FG, 2-2 FT.

February 17, 2003

St. Olaf College senior forward **Mike Ludwig** (Blaine, Minn.) averaged 23.5 points, shot 50% (18-for-36) from the field as St. Olaf posted two wins this week over Augsburg and Macalester. Ludwig scored 18 points with 11 rebounds in the 69-49 win over Augsburg on Wednesday. Ludwig had 29 points, 6 rebounds, and hit the game winning shot with 3.5 seconds left in game in the 70-69 win over Macalester. Ludwig is in second place for all-time scoring at St. Olaf with 1,555 points. Week Stats: 2 GP, 18-36 (.50) FG, 8-13 FT, 47 points, 17 reb., 23.5 ppg., 8.5 rpg. In 2nd place tie for all-time scoring with 1,555 points.

February 10, 2003

Carleton College senior guard **Scott Christensen** (Northfield, Minn.) continued his outstanding play by averaging 15 points, 6.7 assists and 5.7 rebounds in three Carleton victories this week, moving past the 400-assist mark for his career in the process. Christensen connected on 50 percent of his field goal attempts and 60 percent of his three-point attempts as the Knights moved back into a second-place tie with the three wins. In Monday's overtime win over Macalester, the senior tallied 18 points, canning 4-of-5 long-range shots, and dished out four assists. He also nailed two crucial free throws in the extra session to give the Knights a three-point cushion in the final minute. In Wednesday's win over SMU, Christensen nearly tallied a triple-double, recording 12 points (on 4-of-6 shooting), 10 assists and eight rebounds. On Saturday, he scored 15 points and added seven boards and six assists. He currently needs only 10 points to reach 1,000 for his career, which would make him the first Carleton player (and one of only a handful in the MIAC) to tally 1,000 points and 400 assists in a career. Stats for week: 14-28 FG, 9-15 3-pt FG, 8-11 FT, 17 reb. 20 ast., 6 TO, 0 blk., 4 stl, 45 pts.

February 3, 2003

Hamline University senior guard **Tyler Petrich** (Hugo, Minn. / White Bear Lake HS) had an outstanding week as the Pipers beat the top two teams in the conference. In Wednesday's 84-68 win over St. Thomas, Petrich scored 17 points on 5-of-9 from the field and 3-of-5 from three point range. He also grabbed five rebounds. In Saturday's 72-71 win over Bethel, Petrich tallied a game-high 27 points on 10-of-16 shooting. Petrich was also 4-of-6 from beyond the arc and grabbed five rebounds. The wins give the Pipers a five-game winning streak. Stats for the week: 2-0 record, 22 ppg, 15-25 fgs (60%), 7-11 3-pt fgs (64%), 7-8 fts (86%), 5 rpg, 2.5 apg.

January 27, 2003

Macalester College junior forward **Ben Van Thorre** (Minneapolis, Minn. / Washburn H.S.) averaged 28.5 points and 7.5 rebounds in two MIAC games last week, an 84-70 win over St. John's and a 73-68 loss to Bethel. He shot 59% from the field and 85% from the free throw line. Van Thorre had 31 points and nine boards in Monday's win over St. John's, becoming the 16th player in the program's history to reach the 1,000-point career scoring mark. He added 26 points, six boards and three assists in Saturday's loss to Bethel. Van Thorre had just one turnover in the two games. He scored his team's first eight points against SJU and first 11 against Bethel. Stats for the week (2 games): 20-34 FG (.588), 0-1 3's, 17-20 FT (.850), 15 Reb. (7.5), 57 pts. (28.5), 3 assists, 1 turnover, 0 blocks, 4 steals, 65 minutes.

January 20, 2003

Concordia-Moorhead College senior forward/guard **Jared Swanson** (Morris, Minn., Morris Area HS) averaged 25.0 points, and shot a red-hot 69% (24-for-35) from the field, in helping the Cobbers win their first two MIAC games of the year. On Wednesday, Swanson scored 24 points as Concordia beat Hamline 66-54. He went 11-for-20 from the field and 2-for-4 from the free throw line. He also collected four rebounds and had two blocks. On Saturday, against Augsburg, Swanson had a season-best 26 points. He shot a dream-like 13-for-15 from the field and had six rebounds. For the week he scored 50 points, grabbed 10 rebounds, made 2 blocks and had 3 steals. Swansons Stats: 2 GP, 24-35 (.687)FG, 2-4 FT, 50 pts., 10 reb., 2 asst., 2 blocked shots, 3 steals.

January 13, 2003

Saint John's University senior wing **Kevin Buth** (Edina, Minn.) averaged 25.0 points and 5.5 rebounds in two games this past week for the Johnnies. Buth had 22 points and five rebounds on Jan. 6, in a 66-56 win at St. Olaf. In a 68-63 loss at Bethel on Jan. 11, Buth had 28 points and six rebounds. On the season, Buth is averaging 20.4 points and 4.8 rebounds per game. Buth is second in the MIAC with a 22.1 scoring average in seven conference games. SJU is currently 5-7 overall and 4-3 in the MIAC. Stats for the week: 2 GP; 73 MIN; 18-32 (.563) FG; 6-13 (.462) 3FG; 8-9 (.889) FT; 11 REB; 5 PF; 5 A; 6 TO; 5 STL, 50 PTS (25.0).

January 6, 2003

Carleton College forward **Kyle Beste** (Sophomore, St. Louis Park, Minn.) scored 36 points and grabbed seven rebounds in two Carleton victories this past week. In Thursday's 68-61 win at Northwestern, the sophomore tallied a game-high 19 points on 7-of-15 shooting, including a key bucket with 1:34 left that gave Carleton a six-point cushion. In Saturday's 76-69 win at Macalester, Beste scored 17 points on 7-of-13 shooting. He scored six points during a crucial 15-3 in the second half that snapped a 48-48 tie, giving Carleton a 63-51 lead with 4:39 to go. Stats for week: 14-28 FG (1-1 3-pt FG), 7-8 FT, 7 reb., 3 ast., 2 TO, 1 blk., 2 stl., 57 minutes, 18 ppg.

December 16, 2002

Macalester College forward **Ben Van Thorre** (Jr., Minneapolis, Minn./Washburn HS) averaged 21 points, 10 rebounds and shot .607 from the field to lead Macalester to MIAC wins over Augsburg and Concordia last week. Van Thorre scored 27 points on an 11-for-15 shooting performance in Monday's 76-72 win at Augsburg, while adding 12 rebounds, two assists, two blocks and two steals. He had 21 of his 27 points in the second half had nine points and four rebounds in the game-clinching 18-4 second half run. In Wednesday's 71-68 home victory over Concordia, Van Thorre had 15 points, eight rebounds, three assists and four steals. Stats for the week (2 games): 17-28 FG (.607), 2-5 3's (.400), 6-12 FT (.500), 20 rebounds, 42 points, 5 assists, 7 turnovers, two blocks, six steals, 72 minutes.

December 9, 2002

Gustavus Adolphus College junior wing **Tim Brown** (Bloomington, Minn./Jefferson HS) averaged 19.6 points per game and shot 57 percent from the field and 64 percent from three-point range as the Gusties claimed convincing wins over Martin Luther College (66-51), Augsburg College (71-53) and Concordia College (88-65) last week. Brown started the week with 19 points against Martin Luther. He made 8-of-15 shots from the field and grabbed four rebounds. Against Augsburg, he scored 17 points and shot 7-of-15 from the field and 2-of-3 from behind the arc, while grabbing six rebounds. Brown finished the week scoring a career high 23 points against Concordia. He made 9-of-12 from the field and 5-of-6 from three-point range. In addition, Brown did not commit a turnover in any of the three games. For the week he shot 57.0 percent from the field (24-42), 64.2 percent from three point range (9-14) and grabbed 11 rebounds (3.6 rpg). The Gusties are currently ranked 21st in the D3hoops.com poll and have posted a record of 4-0 overall and 2-0 in the MIAC. Stats for the Week: 24-42 FG 9-14 3 pt. FG 2-4 FT 11 rebounds 59 points 1 assist 0 turnovers 1 block 1 steal.

December 2, 2002

Hamline University forward **Josh Hanson** (Jr., 6-5, 198, St. Cloud, Minn./Apollo HS) had a tremendous week as the Pipers ran their record to 3-0 on the season. Saturday night, Hanson went 9-of-17 from the floor while scoring 25 points to lead Hamline to a 80-69 win over Northwestern College. Hanson scored 17 points in the second half, shooting 6-of-11 from the field. He also grabbed nine rebounds. The junior also scored 13 points and 7 rebounds in a 70-61 win over Crown College last Monday. Stats for the week (2 games): 19 ppg, 8 rpg, 2.5 spg.

November 25, 2002

Bethel College forward **Andy Gilbert** (Sr., Plymouth, Minn./Armstrong H.S.) became Bethel's 21st player to score 1,000 career points as the Royals went 1-1 in their own Tip-Off Tournament. In Bethel's 92-69 win over Finlandia University in Friday night's opener, Gilbert scored a game-high 20 points (8-11 FG, 2-3 3pt. FG, 2-2 FT) and added 6 rebounds. In Saturday's championship game with UW-River Falls, Gilbert finished with 21 points (8-21 FG, 2-3 3pt. FG, 3-4 FT) and a game-high 12 rebounds in Bethel's 89-87 overtime loss. For the week, Gilbert averaged 20.5 points, 8 rebounds, and shot 50% from the field, including 66.6% from behind the three-point line. Gilbert now has 1,001 career points.