

Auggies' Coplin headlines MIAC Men's Basketball Awards

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BLOOMINGTON, Minn. – With the 2018-19 Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) men's basketball season in the books, the conference honored the year's top performers with the announcement of the annual MIAC Men's Basketball Awards on Tuesday.

Augsburg guard **Booker Coplin** was voted the league's Joe Hutton Player of the Year following his outstanding junior campaign, while St. Thomas sophomore guard **Burt Hedstrom** received Sixth Man of the Year accolades and his coach, **Johnny Tauer**, was honored with the Coach of the Year award.

Coplin (Jr. | Shakopee, Minn.) emerged as one of the most dynamic scorers in the nation this season, finishing the year with a scoring average of 28.0 points per game, second-best in Division III and sixth-best in all of NCAA basketball. Coplin averaged 27.4 points per MIAC contest as a junior, scoring at least 20 points in 17 of the Auggies' 20 conference games, and going for 30-or-more in seven of those contests. After closing out the regular season with a 43-point effort against St. Olaf, Coplin took his game to another level in the MIAC Playoffs, averaging 37.0 points in three postseason contests, which included a game-winning, buzzer-beating three-point walkoff against the Oles in the quarterfinals and a career-high 46-point performance against Saint John's in the MIAC Playoff Championship. Coplin also got the job done on defense, leading the MIAC in rebounding (9.2 per game) and steals (2.4 per game) in games against conference opponents. He is now the sixth different Auggie to win MIAC Player of the Year honors and the second one in as many seasons, as former teammate Colin Olmscheid was named the recipient last year. Three-time NBA champion Devean George is the last Auggie to repeat as MIAC Player of the Year, having earned the honor in 1998 and 1999 - a feat Coplin will hope to match in 2020.



Hedstrom (So. | Minnetonka, Minn.) was not in the starting lineup for any game this year but played a significant role in the Tommies' success this season, averaging 18.8 minutes and 7.6 points off the bench while appearing in all 26 contests. Hedstrom connected on a career-high 45.9 percent of his shots this season, while his versatility on defense contributed mightily to the Tommies holding opponents to less than 70 points per game and ranking seventh in the country in scoring margin as a team. Hedstrom is the Tommies' 10th Sixth Man of the Year honoree in the last 30 seasons and the program's first since 2015.

Tauer was honored by his peers with MIAC Coach of the Year recognition for the fourth time in his career after leading the Tommies to a 22-3 regular season and 18-2 record in conference play. The eighth-year head coach guided the Tommies to their 13th regular season championship in the last 14 years, thanks in large part to a 21-game winning streak through the heart of the season. Tauer's previous Coach of the Year honors came in 2013, 2015, and 2016, the last of which being the season he led UST to victory in the Division III Men's Basketball National Championship.

In addition to individual awards, MIAC coaches also voted on and selected All-Conference Teams, as well as the All-Defensive and All-First-Year Teams. Saint John's senior guard **David Stokman** became a three-time All-Conference honoree with the second First Team designation of his career this season. Augsburg's **Booker Coplin** is now a two-time All-MIAC selection, as are Bethel's **Granger Kingland**, Carleton's **Kent Hanson**, Saint John's **Jubie Alade**, and St. Olaf's **Austin Korba**. Saint John's **Lucas Walford** and St. Olaf's **Dominic Bledsoe** both found themselves on the All-Defensive Team for the second straight season, while St. Thomas rookie **Anders Nelson** became the first freshman in four seasons and just the third in the last 13 years to earn First Team All-Conference honors.

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

2018-19 MIAC Men's Basketball Awards

Joe Hutton Player of the Year – Booker Coplin | G | Augsburg (Jr. | Shakopee, Minn.)

Sixth Man of the Year – Burt Hedstrom | G | St. Thomas (So. | Minnetonka, Minn.)

Coach of the Year – Johnny Tauer (8th season)

2019 MIAC Men's Basketball First Team All-Conference

Position	Name	Institution	Class	Hometown High School
G	Booker Coplin	Augsburg	Jr.	Shakopee, Minn.
G	Granger Kingland	Bethel	Jr.	Lake Mills, Iowa
G	David Stokman	Saint John's	Sr.	Maple Lake, Minn.
G	Anders Nelson	St. Thomas	Fr.	Edina, Minn.
F	Austin Korba	St. Olaf	Sr.	Lakeville, Minn. Apple Valley
F	Connor Bair	St. Thomas	Sr.	Prior Lake, Minn.

2019 MIAC Men's Basketball Second Team All-Conference

Position	Name	Institution	Class	Hometown High School
F	Kent Hanson	Carleton	Jr.	St. Paul, Minn. St. Paul Academy
F	Jackson Henningfield	Macalester	So.	Lake Mary, Fla. Lyman
F	Lucas Walford	Saint John's	Jr.	Elko, Minn. New Prague
F	Eli Cave	Saint Mary's	So.	St. Paul, Minn. Benilde-St. Margaret's
C	Derek Magnuson	Bethel	Sr.	St. Paul, Minn. Roseville

2019 MIAC Men's Basketball Third Team All-Conference

Position	Name	Institution	Class	Hometown High School
G	Matt Carik	Augsburg	So.	Rogers, Minn.
G	Jack Jenson	Bethel	Jr.	Eden Prairie, Minn. Southwest Christian
G	Jubie Alade	Saint John's	Jr.	Plymouth, Minn. Robbinsdale Armstrong
F	Wyatt Ferm	Macalester	Sr.	Farmington, Minn.
F	Zach Hanson	Saint John's	So.	New Prague, Minn.

2019 MIAC Men's Basketball Honorable Mention

Position	Name	Institution	Class	Hometown High School
G	Kevin McKiernan	Augsburg	Sr.	Savage, Minn. Prior Lake
G	Riley Sharbono	Gustavus	Sr.	Marshall, Minn.
G	Dominic Bledsoe	St. Olaf	So.	St. Paul, Minn. De La Salle
F	Isaac Brooks	Hamline	Sr.	Lakeville, Minn. North
F	Troy Diggins, Jr.	St. Olaf	Jr.	Montevideo, Minn.

2019 MIAC Men's Basketball All-Defensive Team

Position	Name	Institution	Class	Hometown High School
G	Booker Coplin	Augsburg	Jr.	Shakopee, Minn.
G	Quinn Johnson	Carleton	Sr.	Roseville, Minn.
G	Dominic Bledsoe	St. Olaf	So.	St. Paul, Minn. De La Salle
G	GT Johnson	St. Thomas	Sr.	Eagan, Minn.
F	Lucas Walford	Saint John's	Jr.	Elko, Minn. New Prague

2019 MIAC Men's Basketball All-First-Year Team

Position	Name	Institution	Class	Hometown High School
G	Colton Codute	Saint John's	Fy.	Wayzata, Minn. Orono
G	Caden Freetly	Saint Mary's	Fy.	Farmington, Minn.
G	Riley Miller	St. Thomas	Fy.	Eden Prairie, Minn. Benilde-St. Margaret's
G	Anders Nelson	St. Thomas	Fy.	Edina, Minn.
F	Nolan Malo	Gustavus	Fy.	Owatonna, Minn.

2019 MIAC Men's Basketball All-Sportsmanship Team

Position	Name	Institution	Class	Hometown High School
C	Mark Della Vedova	Augsburg	Sr.	Inver Grove Heights, Minn. Simley
G	Tyler Barker	Bethel	Sr.	Maple Grove, Minn.
G	Joh Farmer	Carleton	Sr.	Roseville, Minn.
G	Andrew Holen	Concordia	Jr.	Bismarck, N.D. Century
F	Brandon Snoberger	Gustavus	Sr.	Rice, Minn. Sartell
G	Connor Moore	Hamline	Sr.	Mayville, N.D. May-Port CG
G	Carl Salvino	Macalester	Sr.	Seattle, Wash. Roosevelt
F	Ben Hartmann	Saint John's	Sr.	Albany, Minn.
G	Bradley Hill	Saint Mary's	Sr.	Matteson, Ill. Marist
F	Jake Lyle	St. Olaf	Sr.	St. Paul, Minn. Tartan
G	Nathan Stenger	St. Thomas	Jr.	Iowa City, Iowa Regina