

# 2011-12 MIAC Men's Golf Awards

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ST. PAUL, Minn. -- The Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) announced the 2011-12 MIAC Men's Golf Awards Monday, with conference champion, the University of St. Thomas, claiming two of the conference's three top individual honors. Saint John's University had the MIAC's Player-of-the-Year with Freshman and Coach honors going to the Tommies.

Johnnies' golfer Dennis Granath received the conference's highest honor for his play this season, claiming the 2011-12 MIAC Player-of-the-Year award. St. Thomas rookie Alex Kapraun was honored as the 2011-12 MIAC Freshman-of-the-Year and his coach, Scott Proshek, was honored as the 2011-12 MIAC Coach-of-the-Year after leading the Tommies to the conference championship in October.

As part of a conference-wide sportsmanship initiative, the MIAC announced the sixth annual All-MIAC Sportsmanship team for men's golf. 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.

## **MIAC Player-of-the-Year** - Dennis Granath, Saint John's

Granath (Bandhagen, Sweden/Farsta Gymnasium) had a fantastic year for the Johnnies, helping SJU finish third at the 2011 MIAC Men's Golf Championships in October while earning automatic All-Conference honors for the second-straight season thanks to his seventh-place finish (225, plus-9) with all three rounds at 76 or better. However, Granath was even better over the course of the season, leading the conference with a 74.5 scoring average in 2011-12. The SJU junior was always in contention, finishing in the top five of half (five) of his 10 tournament appearances. He landed in the top 10 six times and was in the top 20 in all but two tournaments. The Johnnies never finished worse than eighth as a team in tournament play, with three team titles this season.

## **MIAC Freshman-of-the-Year** - Alex Kapraun, St. Thomas

St. Thomas first-year Alex Kapraun (Rochester, Minn./Lourdes) burst onto the MIAC scene this season in a big way, sharing medalist honors and earning All-Conference distinction while leading UST to the 2011 MIAC Men's Golf Championship. Kapraun shot a 5-over-par 221 with back-to-back 73s over the final two rounds to share the individual title at the MIAC meet, and St. Thomas won the league title by four shots over Gustavus. Kapraun's 74.9 scoring average ranked third in the conference this season, and he finished in the top 20 in six of his nine appearances, reaching the top 10 four times and top five once.

## **MIAC Coach-of-the-Year** - Scott Proshek, St. Thomas

Proshek - in his second season as the St. Thomas head coach - led the Tommies to an unforgettable year. UST used a 293 on the second day of the MIAC tournament, bookended by 302s, to shoot 897 over the 54-hole tournament (plus-33) and beat Gustavus by four shots for the title and automatic bid to the NCAA Division III Men's Golf Championship. Proshek coached the co-medalist and MIAC Freshman-of-the-Year and three All-Conference players in 2011-12. His team played in 12 events this season, finishing seventh or better in all 12, with two first-place finishes and seven top-five efforts.

## **2011-12 All-MIAC Sportsmanship Team**

**Augsburg** - Brian Deuel (Sr., Vadnais Heights, Minn./White Bear Lake)

**Bethel** - Toby Robinson (Sr., Mankato, Minn./West)

**Carleton** - Turner Wadington (Sr., Charles Ill./Elgin Academy)

**Concordia** - Andrew Whitchurch (Jr., Litchfield, Minn.)

**Gustavus** - Alex Kolquist (Jr., Hermantown, Minn.)

**Macalester** - Tyler Hanck (Jr., Park Ridge, Ill./Maine South)

**Saint John's** - Tony Krogen (Sr., Marshall, Minn.)

**Saint Mary's** - Ethan Austin (Jr., Northbrook, Ill./Glenbrook North)

**St. Olaf** - Justin Volling (Sr., Excelsior, Minn./Minnehaha Academy)

**St. Thomas** - John Young (Jr., Marien on St. Croix, Minn./Forest Lake)