

2013-14 MIAC Men's Hockey Preview and Preseason Coaches' Poll

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2013-14 MIAC Men's Hockey Season Preview

ST. PAUL, Minn. -- The 2013-14 Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) will be an exciting season of change for "The State of Hockey's" only NCAA Division III conference completely contained by the sport's borders. The MIAC blazes into new territory this season as the first conference in the Division to add a shootout to settle overtime ties, as well as a new three-point system to determine the league standings.

The NCAA now allows for a shootout - three players from each team - to decide overtime ties and, though some Division I conferences adopted it a year ago - no Division III league had moved in that direction ... until now. In addition, the MIAC will now award three points for a win in regulation, two points for an overtime or shootout win, or one point for an overtime or shootout loss.

One of the major reasons for the change - which was proposed and passed by the conference coaches and approved by the MIAC's athletic directors and faculty athletic representatives, was to help create some separation in the standings in a historically competitive conference, with 2012-13 serving as a perfect example to how close-knit the final standings can be.

Saint John's (16-8-4, 9-4-3 MIAC, 21 points) and St. Thomas (13-11-2, 10-5-1 MIAC, 21 points) shared the league title a year ago, with both Gustavus (17-8-3, 9-5-2 MIAC, 20 points) and Concordia (13-12-1, 10-6 MIAC, 20 points) finishing a point back of the leaders and St. Olaf (10-14-2, 9-7 MIAC, 18 points) three points behind. Heading into the final weekend of regular-season play, there were six teams still in the mix for the MIAC title, and eight of the conference's nine teams were still in contention for one of the five Playoff bids.

Just two points separated the next three teams in the standings, as Augsburg (8-14-3, 6-8-2 MIAC, 14 points) finished sixth, Saint Mary's (8-16-1, 6-9-1 MIAC, 13 points) took seventh and Bethel (7-18, 6-10, 12 points) was eighth, with Hamline (1-19-5, 1-12-3 MIAC, 5 points) rounding out the MIAC standings.

It should be another entertaining race for the title, aided by the addition of the shootout and the new points system. The MIAC has one team ranked in the USCHO.com Division III Men's Poll as Saint John's checks in at No. 11 with 59 points in the national rankings. However, Gustavus received 24 points to finish in the second "Others receiving votes" spot outside the Top 15 and St. Thomas received 14 points.

Last season's competitiveness and the changes certainly point to another exciting season in "The State of Hockey's" Division III conference. The puck drops Friday and, for MIAC men's hockey fans, the action can't get here soon enough.

JOHNNIES TOP PRESEASON POLL

The competition from 2012-13 carried over into the 2013-14 MIAC Men's Hockey Preseason Coaches' Poll, with three different teams receiving first-place votes, and just three points separating last year's co-champs at the top. The football rivalry between Saint John's and St. Thomas has been well-documented, but the Johnnie-Tommie clash is expected to continue on the ice this season as well. Saint John's received five first-place votes and 61 points to reign atop the poll and open the season as the MIAC favorite, but rival St. Thomas is a close second with three first-place votes and 58 total points.

Gustavus received the other first-place vote, and checks in at No. 3 in the preseason predictions with 51 points. Concordia (43 points) edged St. Olaf (37 points) for fourth place, as the Auggies and Oles round out the top five. That means the coaches predict the same five teams as a year ago will make up the MIAC Playoff field.

Augsburg was alone in sixth place and 27 points. Bethel edged Saint Mary's by a single point for the seventh spot in the poll, 19-18, and Hamline rounded out the coaches' predictions with 10 points.

'SHOWCASING' THE MIAC

For the fifth consecutive season, the MIAC men's hockey season will begin with a grand event - the 2013 MIAC Men's Hockey Showcase, sponsored by Bauer. All nine teams will compete Friday, Saturday and Sunday at Fogerty Arena in Blaine, Minn. Each MIAC squad will open the season with two nonconference games against MIAC foes, to serve as a celebration of hockey in the conference and give fans a preview of what to expect during the conference season.

The Showcase will also potentially serve as the first look at shootouts in Division III, as any overtime tie will be decided by the new addition to the conference. Since the games count as nonconference competitions, they will still go down as a tie in the standings, but it will give fans, players, coaches and officials a chance to test out the new shootout format, should any games remain tied after 65 minutes.



WHAT'S NEW?

The biggest changes in the MIAC this season have already been discussed and will be reflected in the shootout and new points system. There was no coaching turnover in the MIAC this season, as all nine programs retained their head coach. Hamline fans will have a new home, closer to campus, as the Pipers move their home games from Vadnais Heights to nearby Oscar Johnson Arena in St. Paul.

WHO'S BACK?

A big reason an equally exciting and competitive season is expected in the MIAC this winter is the talent that's back throughout the conference, starting with conference favorite Saint John's. 2012-13 MIAC Coach-of-the-Year **Doug Schueller** welcomes back a loaded roster, starting with goalie **Saxton Soley**, who shared MIAC MVP honors as a freshman a year ago. The MIAC's top netminder should get plenty of offensive support as well, with All-MIAC forwards **John Haeg** and **Justin Hochsprung** back to lead a loaded Johnnie squad.

St. Thomas Head Coach **Jeff Boeser** also welcomes back an outstanding defensive core, led by two juniors: All-MIAC goalie **Drew Fielding** and All-America defensemen **Michael Kreig**. Leading the offense will be another junior - All-MIAC forward **Alex Altenbernd**. The Tommies' returning talent should help offset the losses three All-MIAC honorees, who all graduated.

Gustavus overcame a slow start and was the MIAC's best team after the holiday break, going 10-2-2 after Christmas in 2012-13. The Gusties should be a potent offensive club, as Head Coach **Brett Petersen** returns 68.4 percent of his goal scoring from a year ago. Senior forward **Adam Smyth** returns after earning All-Conference honors a season ago, and junior **Jack Walsh** led Gustavus with 13 goals last year.

Add Concordia to the list of teams welcoming back a star goalie. Head Coach Chris Howe has senior Chris Neamonitis back in the net, who led the MIAC with 10 wins in conference play a year ago. Defenseman Caleb Suderman returns as one of the league's best on the blue line, earning All-MIAC honors in each of his first three seasons, and forward Jordie Bancroft burst onto the scene to earn All-Conference accolades as a freshman in 2012-13.

St. Olaf faces the tough task of replacing 2012-13 MIAC Co-MVP **Jeff Harris** and his twin brother **Kevin**, also an All-MIAC pick, but there is a lot of talent back in Northfield for Head Coach **Sean Goldsworthy**. All-MIAC Honorable Mention seniors **Dan Ceka** (forward) and **Henrik Wood** (goalie), as well as two-time captain **John Avino** will look to lead the Oles back to the postseason in 2013-14.

Augsburg graduated stud goalie **Justin Lochner**, but Head Coach **Chris Brown** brings back a lot of offensive talent. All-MIAC forward **Ben McClellan** and forward **B.J. McClellan** both return, as does All-MIAC defenseman **Chris Student** to give the Auggies a talented, senior-laden core. Bethel was hit hard by graduation, losing four-time All-MIAC players **Jack Paul** and **Jon Crouse** to graduation, but Head Coach **Charlie Burggraf** has a great foundation with returning sophomore talent. Forward **Mitch Hughes** and defender **Tony Larson** were both named to the All-MIAC Rookie Team a year ago, and sophomore center **Brock Raffaele** is also back for Bethel.

Saint Mary's also has high hopes for its offensive talent in 2013-14, as Head Coach **Bill Moore** brings back a pair of talented senior forwards. **Austin Balko** and **Bobby Tompson** were both All-MIAC Honorable Mention a year ago, and junior defenseman **Bob Marx** will lead the Cardinals on the blue line. Head Coach **Doc DelCastillo** is hoping for continued progress in his second year on the Hamline bench, and the Pipers hopes start with All-American defenseman **Joe Rubbelke**. A pair of talented sophomores - forward **Brandon Zurn** and goalie **Nick Heimer** - also have Hamline fans excited about the new season.

CIRCLE THESE DATES

Clearly, the first dates MIAC fans will want to mark on the calendar are fast approaching, as the season starts with the 2013 MIAC Men's Hockey Showcase Nov. 1-3. Conference play will begin for some teams a week later, with the regular season set to conclude on Saturday, Feb. 22. The 2013 MIAC Men's Hockey Playoffs will be held Feb. 28, March 1 and March 8, and the five-team tournament will crown the league's postseason champion and automatic qualifier to the NCAA Division III tournament field.

In a fitting scheduling twist, the top two teams in the Coaches' Poll and last season's co-champs will meet on the season's final weekend. Saint John's will travel to St. Thomas on Feb. 21, and the two will duel again the next day in St. Cloud in a huge series that could have championship and Playoff implications. Gustavus and Concordia tied for third a year ago, and this time around those two teams will square off in an early-season series. The Gusties will host the Cobbers in St. Peter for a pair of MIAC games Nov. 15 and 16. Gustavus also faces St. Olaf in an always-entertaining series Dec. 6-7, with the Friday game in Northfield and the Saturday contest in St. Peter.

Augsburg and Bethel are both teams hoping to move up in the standings and into the Playoff field this year, and their MIAC series could go a long way for both teams' postseason hopes. This Twin Cities-showdown will take place the opening weekend of conference play, as the Auggies host the Royals on Nov. 8, with Bethel hosting Augsburg the following night. Hamline and Saint Mary's are also hoping for upward movement in 2013-14, and they'll square off head-to-head in a big series to close conference play. The Pipers host the Cardinals on Feb. 21, with both teams traveling to Winona the final day to meet again on Feb. 22.

A CLOSER LOOK

The rest of the 2013-14 MIAC Men's Hockey Preview contains complete results from the 2013-14 Preseason Coaches' Poll, MIAC Showcase information, MIAC Playoff details, helpful links and a preview for each team submitted by their sports information director. The new MIAC web site - www.miacathletics.com - will be an outstanding source for MIAC men's hockey news, schedules, scores, stats and more throughout the 2013-14 season.

Visit the [MIAC scoreboard](#) on game days to follow all the action, and download the [MIAC mobile app](#) to have all the information with you anywhere you travel. Also, connect to the conference on its [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#) pages for updates and interaction all season long.

2013-14 MIAC Men's Hockey Preseason Coaches' Poll

Coaches voted for every team in the conference except their own team. Points were assigned for each vote (eight for first, seven for second, etc.) Teams are ranked in order of highest point total to lowest with vote totals listed and first-place votes shown in parentheses.

2013-14 MIAC Men's Hockey Preseason Coaches' Poll		
Rank	Institution	Total
1	Saint John's (5)	61
2	St. Thomas (3)	58
3	Gustavus (1)	51
4	Concordia	43
5	St. Olaf	37
6	Augsburg	27
7	Bethel	19
8	Saint Mary's	18
9	Hamline	10

2013 MIAC Men's Hockey Showcase

The 2013 MIAC Men's Hockey Showcase will start the new season in style, with all nine teams playing two games apiece over three days at Fogerty Arena in Blaine, Minn. The Showcase will be held Friday, Nov. 1-Sunday, Nov. 3, and it offers MIAC fans an exciting, season-opening preview of the conference. This season, the MIAC Showcase will incorporate a three-player shootout to decide any overtime ties, as the teams prepare to use the shootout in conference play this season. All South Rink games will be web cast live by the MIAC and Webcast America, and all nine games will have live stats courtesy of Saint Mary's sports information.

| [2013 MIAC Men's Hockey Showcase Home Page](#) |

2013-14 MIAC Men's Hockey Playoffs

The 2013-14 MIAC Playoffs will feature the top five teams in the conference standings playing in a high-seed-host, single-elimination postseason tournament. The lone quarterfinal game between the No. 4 and No. 5 seeds will be played Friday, Feb. 28, with the two semifinal games to follow the next day, Saturday, March 1. The championship set for the following Saturday, March 8. The winner will receive the MIAC's automatic bid to the 2014 NCAA Division III Men's Hockey Tournament.

| [MIAC Men's Hockey Playoffs Websites](#) | [2013-14](#) | [2012-13](#) |

MIAC Men's Hockey Links

| [2013-14 MIAC Schedule](#) | [2012-13 MIAC Statistics](#) | [MIAC Recordbook](#) | [MIAC Archives](#) |

Team-by-Team Previews

| [AUG](#) | [BU](#) | [CON](#) | [GAC](#) | [HU](#) | [SJU](#) | [SMU](#) | [STO](#) | [UST](#) |



AUGSBURG | [Auggies' men's hockey home page](#) |

Head coach

- Chris Brown (Eighth season)

A Year Ago

- 6-8-2 MIAC (6th place) | 8-14-3 Overall

Top Returners

- Ben McClellan (F, JR | All-MIAC in 2012-13 ... Team's leader in goals (11), assists (tied, 8) and points (19) ... 18G-19A--37P in 49 career games.)
- Chris Student (D, SR | All-MIAC in 2012-13 in 1st year at Augsburg after transferring from Minnesota ... 1G-7A--8P in 2012-13 ... 1G-9A--10P in 45 career collegiate games (Minnesota 2011-12, Northeastern 2009-10).)
- B.J. McClellan (F, SR | 8G-4A--12P in 2012-13, including 2 game-winning goals ... 18G-12A--30P in 75 career games.)

Key Losses

- Justin Lochner (G | All-MIAC HM in 2009-10 and 2010-11 ... 3.03 GAA, .895 save pct., 6-11-3 record in 2012-13 ... 36-40-8 record, 2.80 GAA and .911 save pct. in 88-game career.)
- Landon Olson (D | All-MIAC HM in 2012-13 ... 6G-4A--10P in 2012-13 ... 10G-10A--20P in 68-game career.)
- Loren Egan (D | All-MIAC Sportsmanship Team in 2012-13 ... 2G-3A--5P in 2012-13 ... 4G-4A--8P in 67-game career.)

By the Numbers

- 5-1-2: Five wins and two wins in an eight-game span, including league sweeps of Saint Mary's and Bethel, that enabled Augsburg to move into playoff contention in January and early February.
- 3: Games in which Augsburg scored 7 goals or more in 2012-13 -- an 8-2 win at Wisconsin-Superior on Dec. 7, a 7-3 win over Saint Mary's on Jan. 25 and a 9-4 win at Bethel on Feb. 8.
- Plus-9: Augsburg's "Special Teams Net" in 2012-13, second-best among MIAC teams in overall statistics. Augsburg was a plus-16 on its power plays (19 power-play goals scored, 3 shorthanded goals allowed) and a minus-7 on opponent power plays (12 power-play goals allowed, 5 shorthanded goals scored).

Did You Know?

- In its 16 MIAC games, Augsburg was tied for second among MIAC teams with a power-play success rate of 20.0 percent (12-of-60), and was second among MIAC teams with a penalty kill success rate of 89.8 percent (44-of-49).

Off the Ice

- Augsburg's men's hockey team had six student-athletes earn Academic All-MIAC honors in 2012-13. Augsburg's men's hockey team was named the Men's Academic Team of the Year at the 2013 Auggie Awards.



BETHEL | [Royals' men's hockey home page](#) |

Head coach

- Charlie Burggraf (Fourth season)

A Year Ago

- 7-11 MIAC (8th place) | 7-18 Overall

Top Returners

- Mitch Hughes (W, So. | 15 G, 11 A, 26 Pts., All-MIAC Rookie Team)
- Tony Larson (D, So. | 1 G, 8 A, 9 Pts., All-MIAC Rookie Team)
- Brock Raffaele (C, So. | 6 G, 10 A, 16 Pts.)

Key Losses

- Jack Paul (F | Four-time MIAC All-Conference)
- Jon Crouse (D | Four-time MIAC All-Conference)
- Dan Rowland (F | 5 G, 7 A, 12 Pts.)

By the Numbers

- 26: Bethel's Jack Paul and Mitch Hughes finished in a three-way tie at the end of the 2012-13 regular season for points scored. The pair each totaled 26 points, as Hughes scored 15 goals and 11 assists and Paul amassed eight goals and 18 assists.
- 11: After going scoreless in the first eight games of the 2012-13 season, Mitch Hughes went on a scoring streak. Hughes tallied at least a point in 11 consecutive games, scoring 18 total points on 12 goals and six assists throughout the run. Hughes went on to score 26 points in the season with 18 goals and eight assists.
- 2: Two members of the Royals 2012-13 squad were selected to the six-person MIAC All-Rookie Team. Mitch Hughes and Tony Larson were honored to squad, as Hughes finished second among all MIAC players in goals scored and Larson accumulated one goal and eight assists in his first year wearing a Bethel sweater.

Did You Know?

- Jon Crouse and Jack Paul accomplished many feats while at Bethel University, but perhaps the most notable was receiving MIAC All-Conference accolades in every season they played. Crouse and Paul are the only Royals to be four-time All-MIAC skaters, as they capped their career with their fourth consecutive honor in 2012-13.

Off the Ice

- The 2013-14 roster is comprised of 28 student athletes. Of the 28, there are 14 states in the U.S. and Canada represented: Minnesota (7), California (3), Wisconsin (3), Illinois (2), Michigan (2), Nevada (2), North Dakota (2), Alaska, Connecticut, Nebraska, Ontario, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Vermont.



CONCORDIA | [Cobbers' men's hockey home page](#) |

Head coach

- Chris Howe (Sixth season)

A Year Ago

- 10-6 MIAC (T-3rd place) | 13-12-1 Overall

In the 2013 Postseason

- Lost to St. John's 5-1 in MIAC semifinal

Top Returners

- Caleb Suderman (D, Sr. | 3-time All-MIAC; 3rd in scoring among defensemen in 2012-13)
- Jordie Bancroft (F, So. | 2012-13 All-MIAC; team leader in overall scoring; 12 goals, 10 assists, 22 pts in 2012-13)
- Chris Neamonitis (G, Sr. | 2012-13 All-MIAC Honorable Mention; started all 16 MIAC games in 2012-13; fifth in the MIAC in GAA)

Key Losses

- Ben Payne (F | Second on the team in scoring in 2012-13 with 20 pts.)
- Brian Kang (F | Tied for third on the team in assists in 2012-13)

By the Numbers

- 3: Concordia has recorded three straight double-digit win season. The last time that happened was from 2000-03.
- 7: Concordia has seven seniors on this year's roster
- 59: The Cobbers return players who scored 59 of the team's 79 goals last season

Did You Know?

- Cobber sophomore forward Tucker Coborn, who finished fourth on the team is his first season at Concordia, broke his arm in his first-ever hockey practice as a child.

Off the Ice

- Concordia teamed up with the charity Dress For Success and helped collect articles of clothing for women in the Fargo-Moorhead area.



GUSTAVUS | [Gusties' men's hockey home page](#) |

Head coach

- Brett Petersen (14th Season)

A Year Ago

- 9-5-2 MIAC (T-3rd place) | 17-8-3 Overall

Top Returners

- Adam Smyth (Senior, Forward, Burnsville, Minn.) | 2012-13 All-Conference...Led team in scoring with 12 goals and nine assists for 21 points (9th/MIAC)...Scored a hat trick in two games last season...Tallied 14 points (8G, 6A) over the second half of the season...Finished with a rating of +13...Led team with four power play goals.
- Jack Walsh (Junior, Forward, Mahtomedi, Minn.) | Led team in goals with 13, finished second in scoring with 20 points...Scored seven game-winning goals, ranking him first in the MIAC and second in NCAA Division III...Scored 14 points (9G, 5A) over Gustavus's last 11 games...Scored a hat trick against Saint Mary's on Feb. 9.

Key Losses

- Tyler Venne (Goaltender) | Gustavus's goaltender in 21 of 28 games last season, logging 1,255:50 minutes...Went 13-5-3 overall and 8-3-2 in the MIAC...Finished with a .917 save percentage and a 2.25 goals against average...Posted a career-best three shutouts.
- Brenden Baker (Defenseman) | Team's top-scoring defenseman with five goals and seven assists for 12 points...Scored two power play goals and one game-winner...Led team in on-ice time

By the Numbers

- 10-2-2: Gustavus's record after the holiday break last season.
- 68.4: Gustavus returns to the ice in 2013-14 with 11 players who accounted for 68.4-percent of the team's total goals scored last season.
- 14-2-1: Gustavus's record when scoring the first goal last season. The Gusties were also 10-1-1 when leading after the first period, and 14-1-1 when leading after the second.

Did You Know?

- Former Gustavus Adolphus men's hockey player Ross Ring-Jarvi '12 officially signed with the Alaska Aces of the ECHL in October. Ring-Jarvi, who made his pro debut with the Rapid City Rush (CHL) in 2012, skated in Norway with the Tonsberg Vikings where he collected 37 points off 21 goals and 16 assists last season. "Ringo" has played in two games for the Aces and has a rating of +1.



HAMLIN | [Pipers' men's hockey home page](#) |

Head coach

- Doc DelCastillo (Second season)

A Year Ago

- 1-12-3 MIAC (9th place) | 1-19-5 Overall

Top Returners

- Joe Rubbleke, Jr., D, 7 G, 14 A, All-MIAC, d3hockey.com. West region team)
- Brandon Zurn, So, F, 8 G, 12 A, All-MIAC Rookie team)

- Nick Heimer , So., G, 9 games, 4.45 GAA

Key Losses

- Matt Hemingway, G, 3.24 GAA, .887 Save percentage

By the Numbers

- 1: number on Canadians on team (first year player Parsa Monsef)
- 4: goalies on current roster
- 16: returning players from last year's team

Did You Know?

- Assistant coach John Hamre, a recent hire, was the head boys coach at Blake High School for 10 seasons.

Off the Ice

- Last spring, the Pipers helped fix a home as part of Habitat For Humanity Project.

SAINT JOHN'S | [Johnnies' men's hockey home page](#) |



Head Coach

- Doug Schueller (Sixth season)

A Year Ago

- 9-4-3 MIAC (T-1st place) | 16-8-4 Overall

In the 2013 Postseason

- MIAC postseason results (Semifinals – def. Concordia, 5-1; Finals – def. Gustavus, 3-2)
- NCAA postseason results (1st round – lost to UW-Eau Claire, 4-2)

Top Returners

- Saxton Soley (So., G, 6-0, 190 | AHCA All-America second team; 2013 MIAC Co-Player of the Year; led the MIAC with a 1.33 GAA, 94.5 save percentage and a 73.1 winning percentage (9-3-1 record) in 14 conference games; 15-5-1 with a 1.81 GAA and a 92.8 save percentage (501 saves) overall; 10-2-1 with a 1.37 GAA, two shutouts and a 94.2 save percentage (291 saves) in his last 13 starts)
- John Haeg (Jr., F, 6-1, 195 | Two-time All-MIAC first-team selection; posted 13 points (6g/7a) in conference play; led team for second consecutive season in scoring with 30 points (11g/19a) overall; nine points (1g/8a) on the power play)
- Justin Hochsprung (Sr., F, 6-2, 190 | 2013 All-MIAC first-team selection; second on team with 24 points; led team in plus/minus with a +17; totaled 11 points (7g/4a) in the season's final six games, including a hand in all five game-winning goals (3g/2a); led SJU with 17 points (9g/8a) and a plus/minus rating of +14 in 15 conference games)

Key Losses

- Tobias Linbro (F | Two-time Capital One Academic All-District; nine points (7g/2a) and a plus/minus of +10 in 25 games as the team's co-captain in 2012-13; ended his career as a three-time Academic All-MIAC honoree with 32 points (14g/18a), a plus/minus of +15, two game-winning goals and only 13 penalties in 84 career games)
- Michael Palmiscno (F | Two-time team captain; recorded 16 points in each of his four seasons with the Johnnies to finish with 64 points (23g/41a) in 104 career games; 11 of his 23 career goals were scored on the power play; led the team with a .588 winning percentage on faceoffs (228-160, .567 for his career); a three-time Academic All-MIAC honoree; is now an assistant coach for SJU in 2013-14)
- Jascha Pettit (F | Fourth on team with 20 points (8g/12a) in 2012-13; totaled 55 points (31g/24a) in 87 career games)

By the Numbers

- 8: All eight All-MIAC honorees from last season return for SJU in 2013-14: Haeg, Hochsprung, Soley and junior forward Phil Johnson (Duluth, Minn.) from the first team; and four defenseman that were named All-MIAC honorable mention: seniors Trent Johnson (Duluth, Minn.) and Axel Ramsgard (Gothenburg, Sweden), and junior Wally Cossette (Maple Grove, Minn.) and Nick Senta (Savage, Minn.).
- 15: Soley's 15 wins overall were a school record for an SJU freshman, surpassing Mark Ketzner's total of 12 (12-8-1 record) set during the 1993-94 season.
- 86.9%: SJU posted an overall penalty-kill rate at 86.9 percent (86-for-99), which was good for seventh in Division III, last season. The Johnnies were even stingier in MIAC play, allowing only two power-play goals (50-for-52). In fact, SJU scored more goals, five shorthanded, than it allowed on the penalty kill in conference play.

Did You Know?

- The Johnnies are 30-17-7 (.620) in MIAC regular-season games after Christmas under the direction of head coach Doug Schueller, including a 16-5-3 record the past two seasons (.729).

Off the Ice

- Five Johnnies earned Academic All-MIAC honors in 2012-13, the most for SJU since five earned the distinction in 2006-07.

SAINT MARY'S | [Cardinals' men's hockey home page](#) |

Head coach

- Bill Moore (Seventh season)



A Year Ago

- 6-9-1 MIAC (7th place) | 8-16-1 Overall

Top Returners

- Austin Balko (5-10, 165, Sr., For. | 23 GP, 9 G, 8 A, 17 Pts, 1 GWG, 3 SHG | 2012-13 H-M All-MIAC, 2011-12 First-Team All-MIAC)
- Bobby Thompson (5-10, 200, Sr., For. | 25 GP, 10 G, 11 A, 21 Pts, 4 PPG, 2 GWG | H-M All-MIAC)
- Bob Marx (6-0, 185, Jr., Def. | 25 GP, 6 G, 9 A, 15 Pts, 5 PPG)

Key Losses

- Michael Hill (20 GP, 12 G, 12 A, 24 Pts, 1 GWG | First-Team All-MIAC)
- Kevin Wentland (24 GP, 7 G, 9 A, 16 Pts)
- Andy Scheib (15 GP, 3.78 GAA, 347 Saves, .876 Save %, 1 Shutout)

By The Numbers

- 0: SMU's 0-0 tie vs. St. Thomas on Jan. 18 marked the first time in program history the Cardinals played to a scoreless tie. Ironically, both of SMU's hockey teams posted 0-0 ties last season, with the Cardinal women's program battling Concordia to a scoreless deadlock on Feb. 15.
- 7: SMU scored seven shorthanded goals during the 2012-13 season, tying the school record set during the 1991-92 season. Austin Balko (Midland, Mich.) led the way, scoring three of the Cardinals' seven shorthanded goals.
- 8: The Cardinals closed out the 2012-13 season with eight wins, the most since the Cardinals went 9-14-2 during the 2007-08 season

Did You Know?

- Christian Gaffy (Scandia, Minn.) stopped 15 of the 17 shots he faced against St. Scholastica on Nov. 3 en route to his first win in his first collegiate start. Gaffy became the first Cardinal goalie to win in his first collegiate start since Curtis Nosal made 25 saves in a 4-1 win over St. Olaf on Nov. 9, 2002.

Off The Ice

- The Cardinals have two circle-the-date events on this year's schedule. SMU will honor all veterans with Veterans Appreciation Night on Nov. 8 against St. Thomas, and SMU's Nov. 22 contest against Saint John's will include the Fourth Annual Teddy Bear Toss — after the first SMU goal in the first period — or at the end of the first period if SMU fails to score — fans will have an opportunity to throw their teddy bear and/or stuffed animal(s) onto the ice. They will then be collected and go directly to benefit children in the local Winona areas for the Christmas Holiday.



ST. OLAF | [Oles' men's hockey home page](#) |

Head coach

- Sean Goldsworthy (17th season)

A Year Ago

- 9-7 MIAC (5th place) | 10-14-2 Overall

In the 2013 Postseason

- MIAC postseason results (Lost 3-2 in the quarterfinals to Gustavus.)

Top Returners

- Dan Cecka (Forward, Senior | All-Conference Honorable Mention)
- John Avino (Defense, Senior | Two-time Captain)
- Henrik Wood (Goalie, Senior | All-Conference Honorable Mention)

Key Losses

- Jeff Harris (Forward | MIAC Co-MVP, All-Conference)
- Kevin Harris (Forward | All-Conference)
- Ross Trousdale (Forward | All-Conference Honorable Mention)

By the Numbers

- 16: St. Olaf's Jeff Harris led the league in goals scored last year with 16.
- 5: St. Olaf had a five game win streak on their road to make the playoffs.
- 17: The number of seasons Sean Goldsworthy has coached the St. Olaf men.

Did You Know?

- Four St. Olaf players (John Avino, Geoff Gieni, Steve Papciak, and Tim Tuscher) earned the Academic All-Conference honor.

Off the Ice

- When the hockey team isn't on the ice for their own practices, the team volunteers their time to help with the youth hockey programs in Northfield.

ST. THOMAS | [Tommies' men's hockey home page](#) |

**Head coach**

- Jeff Boeser (Fourth season)

A Year Ago

- 10-5-1 MIAC (T-1st place) | 13-11-2 Overall

In the 2012 Postseason

- Lost 1-0 to Gustavus in MIAC playoff semifinals

Top Returners

- Michael Krieg (JR, D/All-America/Career: 52 games, 8g-17a)
- Alex Altenbernd (JR, F/All-MIAC/Career: 52 games, 14g-18a)
- Drew Fielding (JR, GK/All-MIAC/Career: 19-8-2, 1.83 GAA, .924 save%)

Key Losses

- Robbie Vannelli (Grad. D/All-MIAC/28 points in 96 career games)
- Riley Horgan (Grad. F/All-MIAC/83 points in 87 career games)
- Travis Baker (Grad. F/All-MIAC/57 points in 100 career games).

By the Numbers

- 26-2: St. Thomas won-loss record the last two seasons when it scores three or more goals
- 1.81: Last season's Tommie goals-against average, fourth best in Division III
- 31: Consecutive winning seasons for Tommie men's hockey

Did You Know?

- After being out of the MIAC-NCHA crossover schedule the last two seasons, UST will again play a challenging schedule including games against St. Norbert and UW-Eau Claire, the last two national champion programs.

Off the Field

- Alternate captain Alex Niestrom, a Marketing major, has already accepted a full-time job after graduation next spring with Anheuser-Busch.

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