

2014-15 MIAC Men's Hockey Preview and Preseason Coaches' Poll

Posted: Oct 30, 2014

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2014-15 MIAC Men's Hockey Season Preview

ST. PAUL, Minn. -- In recent seasons, the battle for the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) men's hockey championship and five postseason tournament bids has been a fight to the finish, with the final weekend of the regular season typically determining the champ and MIAC Playoff field. As the 2014-15 season prepares for the puck to drop, expectations are high for another stellar season in the MIAC, and the competitiveness should be at an all-time high.

In fact, the conference had been so closely contested, a year ago the league's coaches voted to move from to a three-point system, adopting the shootout to break overtime ties and awarding another point for regulation wins to try and create some additional, earned separation in the standings. However, the drama still went right down to the wire in an entertaining season that saw the MIAC make headlines as the first NCAA Division III conference to adopt the shootout.

St. Thomas and Gustavus distanced themselves from a crowded field of contenders, with the Tommies (21-5-2 overall, 13-1-2 MIAC) racking up 42 points in conference play to earn the conference title over the Gusties (16-7-4, 12-3-1 MIAC, 38 points). It was the Tommies third-straight conference championship, and they added the MIAC Playoff title by scoring a one-goal win over Gustavus in a fitting championship showdown.

Only 11 points separated the next five teams in the conference standings in another display of MIAC parity. St. Olaf (12-11-4, 9-4-3 MIAC) and Saint John's (16-10, 10-6-0 MIAC) tied for third with 29 points each, with the Johnnies holding the tiebreaker for Playoff seeding purposes. Concordia (12-9-5, 6-6-4 MIAC) edged Augsburg (13-9-3, 6-7-3 MIAC) by a single point, 23-22, for the fifth and final Playoff spot.

Saint Mary's (10-14-1, 6-10 MIAC) was just another three points behind the Auggies at 18 points and Bethel (3-20-2, 2-13-1 MIAC, 9 points) and Hamline (2-22-1, 1-15 MIAC, 6 points) rounded out the final two spots in the standings in 2013-14.

This year, the MIAC returns a ton of talent. Rosters around the league are stacked with former MIAC MVPs, All-Americans and All-Conference selections. The current crop of conference goalies could be among the best collection of talent in conference history. Plenty of talented scorers and defenders are also back to fuel the optimism of the new season. Basically, the 2014-15 campaign can't start soon enough.

COACHES CALL ST. THOMAS MIAC FAVORITE

The coaches predict another season with St. Thomas atop the MIAC standings, as the Tommies were a unanimous choice to repeat as conference champions to headline the 2014-15 MIAC Men's Hockey Preseason Coaches' Poll. UST received eight of the nine first-place votes (coaches can't vote for their own team) and 64 points to earn its spot as the conference favorite. Gustavus - the runner-up a year ago - is again considered the Tommies' top threat, as the Gusties received the other first-place vote and 55 points to finish second, and Saint John's should also be in contention, as the Johnnies rounded out the top three with 51 points.

St. Olaf received 38 points in the poll and just barely edged Augsburg (37) by a single point for fourth place, as the Oles and Auggies round out the coaches' picks for the five-team MIAC Playoffs. Concordia is also expected to be in the postseason picture, as the Cobbers were a close sixth with 33 points. The coaches expect Saint Mary's, Hamline and Bethel to all be neck-and-neck in the final third of the standings, as the Cardinals were seventh with 19 points and the Pipers (14) edged the Royals (13) for the No. 8 spot in the poll.

NATIONAL RANKINGS RECOGNIZE MIAC

The anticipation for the 2014-15 season in "The State of Hockey" has ascended to the national level as well, as the MIAC was well-represented in the D3hockey.com and USCHO.com Top 15 Preseason Polls. St. Thomas opens the season ranked No. 5 in the nation by both entities. Gustavus also appeared in both polls, as No. 12 in the USCHO.com poll and in the "Others receiving votes" category of the D3hockey.com poll. St. Olaf also received votes in the D3hockey.com rankings, while Saint John's received votes in the USCHO's poll.

NEW HOME FOR SEASON-OPENING SHOWCASE

The season will again open with one of the MIAC's most popular events - the MIAC Men's Hockey Showcase - although it will look significantly different in 2014. The three-day, nine-game celebration of MIAC hockey will remain in Blaine, Minn., but it has moved from Fogerty Arena to the Schwan's Super Rink. The new location will allow all three games each day to be played simultaneously (with start times staggered by 30 minutes). The Showcase begins Friday and runs through Sunday, with each MIAC team playing two games (that are counted as nonconference in the standings) against one another. There will be live stats of each game, and some schools will offer video or audio web casts of their games as well. The MIAC Showcase home page has complete schedules and links to follow the action, and will be updated throughout the weekend with scores, stats, recaps, photos and more.



WHAT'S NEW?

In addition to the new MIAC Showcase location and format, the standings and points system received another facelift this season. Last year, the MIAC became the first Division III conference to adopt the shootout and move to a three-point system. This year, those elements remain, but overtime results have been adjusted by the league's coaches and athletic directors. In 2013-14, an overtime win or loss was treated the same as a shootout win or loss. This season, overtime results will receive the same points as regulation results. The new system will feature three points for a regulation or overtime win, two points for a shootout win, one point for a shootout loss and no points for a regulation or overtime loss.

There was also one coaching change in the offseason, as Cory Laylin replaces Doc DelCastillo as the head coach at Hamline. Other than that it was all quiet on the coaching carousel. St. Olaf's Sean Goldsworthy returns for his 18th season leading the Oles to remain the MIAC's longest-tenured coach, while Gustavus' Brett Petersen embarks on his milestone 15th season with the Gusties.

WHO TO WATCH FOR

The Tommies were the unanimous pick to win it all again - and a top-five team nationally - thanks to the plethora of returning talent in St. Paul. UST has an All-American back at each of the three key positions on the ice, and field a deep, experienced, skilled bunch. Alex Altenbernd is back at forward after racking up 24 points a year ago en route to First Team All-American honors. Goalie Drew Fielding was the MIAC's Co-Player-of-the-Year and a Second Team All-American, and he's back between the pipes, and Second Team All-American defenseman Michael Krieg also returns to anchor the blue line as St. Thomas seeks another MIAC title and trip to the NCAA tournament.

Gustavus also has plenty of talent back in St. Peter to make a run at the MIAC title, starting with All-MIAC goalie John McLean in the crease. The Gusties have to replace high-scoring forward Corey Lievermann, but have a pair of senior skaters back in Tyler Lopic and Jack Walsh expected to take a step forward and assume larger roles in 2014-15.

The Johnnies are just a year removed from sharing the MIAC title and winning the MIAC Playoff championship, and many of the key players from that squad are still in Collegeville. Senior forward John Haeg has been an All-Conference pick in each of his first three seasons, and two-time All-MIAC forward Phil Johnson teams with Haeg to give SJU a spectacular 1-2 punch. Goalie Saxton Soley is also back for his junior season and hopes to return to his 2012-13 form, when he was named MIAC Co-MVP and an All-American as a freshman.

St. Olaf finished third a year ago and brings back a lot of its key talent, including All-MIAC junior forward Peter Lindblad and his 15 goals, along with sophomore forward Steven Sherman and senior goalie Steve Papciak. Augsburg just missed out on the MIAC Playoffs last season, and could be poised to join the postseason party in 2013-14. Talented forwards Mack Ohnsted (25 points) and Ben McClellan (15 goals) have both earned All-MIAC honors in their career and will team with senior goalie John Bretzman to give the Auggies plenty of reason for optimism this season.

Concordia will have huge skates to fill on the blue line after the graduation of MIAC Co-MVP Caleb Suderman, but its offense is still in great shape thanks to the return of scoring star Andrew Deters and his 34 points (10 goals, 24 assists). Jordan Bancroft and Garrett Hendrickson also return at forward for the Cobbers, and they try to return to the postseason. Saint Mary's enters 2014-15 with high hopes with several of its top players back. Senior defenseman Bob Marx is back after scoring 17 points a year ago, and sophomore forwards Martin Gruse and Nick Albergo are also back after strong rookie campaigns.

Laylin's first season on the Hamline bench will certainly benefit from the return of senior defenseman Joe Rubbelke, a two-time All-MIAC pick. Junior forwards Kevin Novakovich and Brandon Zurn will again be called upon to lead the Piper offense as they hope for marked improvement this season. Bethel also has several of its top scorers back, as junior center Brock Raffaele and junior wing Travis Payne were both All-MIAC Honorable Mention selections last season, and junior Mitch Hughes is also expected to contribute again to the Royals' scoring attack.

CIRCLE THESE DATES

The first big date - or three dates, actually - of the 2014-15 MIAC men's hockey season are right around the corner, as the puck drops on the new season Friday, Saturday and Sunday with all nine teams in action at the MIAC Men's Hockey Showcase. The following two weeks feature a mix of conference games and nonconference play against teams from the WIAC, with the first full weekend of conference play coming Nov. 21-22. The pre-Holidays portion of the MIAC schedule concludes Dec. 5-6.

The league will spend the first half of January playing nonconference games against teams from around the Midwest, with MIAC play resuming the weekend of Jan. 16-17. The final weekend of the regular season will be Feb. 20-21, and if recent seasons are any indication, it will take until that final set of games to determine the champ and the MIAC Playoff field.

The MIAC Playoff format received a slight change this year as well, as the quarterfinal game between the No. 4 and 5 seeds was moved from Friday to Thursday. Now, the 4-5 game will be played Feb. 26, with the winner joining the top three seeds in the semifinals on Saturday, Feb. 28. The MIAC will crown its 2014-15 Playoff champion, and award its automatic bid to the NCAA Division III Men's Hockey Playoffs, the following Saturday, March 7.

A CLOSER LOOK

The rest of the 2014-15 MIAC Men's Hockey Preview contains complete results from the 2014 Preseason Coaches' Poll, helpful links and a preview for each team submitted by their sports information director. The MIAC web site - www.miacathletics.com - will be an outstanding source for MIAC men's hockey news, schedules, scores, stats and more throughout the 2014-15 season.

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

2014-15 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.

2014-15 MIAC Men's Hockey Preseason Coaches' Poll		
Rank	Institution	Total
1.	St. Thomas (8)	64
2.	Gustavus (1)	55
3.	Saint John's	51
4.	St. Olaf	38
5.	Augsburg	37
6.	Concordia	33
7.	Saint Mary's	19
8.	Hamline	14
9.	Bethel	13

2014 MIAC Men's Hockey Showcase

The 2014 MIAC Men's Hockey Showcase will have a new look and a new location, as the popular three-day event moves to the Schwan's Super Rink in Blaine, Minn. The new location will allow the Showcase to have all three games each day going on simultaneously, with start times staggered by 30 minutes. The Showcase will be held Oct. 31, Nov. 1 and Nov. 2, with each of the nine MIAC teams playing two games over the course of the weekend to drop the puck on the 2014-15 season in style. The Showcase games will be counted as nonconference games in the standings, and serve as a season-opening celebration of the only Division III conference in "The State of Hockey." The [Showcase home page](#) contains full schedules, live stat links, team information and links, ticket information, directions and more, and it will be updated with results, recaps, photos and more throughout the event.

| [2014 MIAC Men's Hockey Showcase Home Page](#) |

2014-15 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 Playoff schedule received a slight update in 2014-15, with the quarterfinal game moving up a day. The lone quarterfinal game between the No. 4 and No. 5 seeds will now be played Thursday, Feb. 26, with the two semifinal games to follow on Saturday, Feb. 28. The championship game is set for the following Saturday, March 7. The winner will receive the MIAC's automatic bid to the 2015 NCAA Division III Men's Hockey Tournament.

| [MIAC Men's Hockey Playoffs Websites](#) | [2014-15](#) | [2013-14](#) |

MIAC Men's Hockey Links

| [2014-15 MIAC Schedule](#) | [Standings](#) | [2013-14 MIAC Statistics](#) | [News](#) | [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 (9th year at Augsburg, 14th year overall)

A Year Ago

- 6-7-3 MIAC (6th place) | 13-9-3 Overall

Top Returners

- Mack Ohnsted (F, JR | All-MIAC in 2013-14 ... Led Augsburg with 19 assists & 25 points, also scored 6 goals ... Goal or assist in 18 of 25 games in 2013-14, with 6 multiple-point games ... Career (50 games): 8G-27A--35P.)
- Ben McClellan (F, SR | All-MIAC in 2012-13 ... Team-leading 15 goals in 2013-14, also 6 assists for 21 points ... Goal or assist in 15 of 25 games in 2013-14, with 3 multiple-point games ... Career (74 games): 33G-25A--58P.)

- John Bretzman (G, SR | 9-7-2 record, .898 save pct., 2.67 GAA in 18 games in 2013-14 ... Career (25 games): 12-10-2 record, .902 save pct., 2.57 GAA and 2 shutouts.)

Key Losses

- Chris Student (D | All-MIAC in 2012-13 and 2013-14 ... 1G-11A--12P in 2013-14, with 4 multiple-point games ... Played 2 seasons at Augsburg (45 career games: 2G-18A--20P) after playing at Northeastern (2009-10) and Minnesota (2010-11) ... 70 collegiate games: 2G-20A--22P.)
- Niklas Almstrom (F | 2nd on team with 10 goals in 2013-14, also 8 assists for 18 points ... Career (73 games): 19G-15A--34P.)
- B.J. McClellan (F | 3G-4A--7P in 2014-15 ... Career (100 games): 21G-16A--37P.)

By the Numbers

- 19: Assists for Mack Ohnsted in 2013-14, ranking second among MIAC players in overall statistics. His 0.76 assists per-game tied for 21st among NCAA Division III players nationally.
- 7: Players who scored 10 or more points last season who are returning to the Augsburg lineup in 2014-15.
- 3.16: Goals per-game for Augsburg in 2014-15, the second-best scoring average among MIAC teams in overall statistics.

Did You Know?

- Augsburg will host the U.S. Under-18 National Team (USNDTP) in an exhibition game on Nov. 22 at Ed Saugestad Rink, a day after the USNDTP takes on the Minnesota Gophers at Mariucci Arena. Augsburg is one of five Division III teams the U.S. Under-18 National Team will face in 2014-15.

Off the Ice

- Augsburg had 11 men's hockey players earn Academic All-MIAC honors in 2014-15, each recording a 3.50 or greater grade-point average while playing in 50 percent or more of the team's regular-season contests.



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

Head coach

- Charlie Burggraf (5th season)

A Year Ago

- 2-13-1 MIAC (8th place) | 3-20-2 Overall

Top Returners

- Brock Raffaele (C, Jr. | 2014 MIAC All-Conference Honorable Mention, Leading scorer with 20 points)
- Travis Payne (W, Jr. | 2014 MIAC All-Conference Honorable Mention, 10 G, 19 Pts.)
- Mitch Hughes (W, Jr. | 2013 MIAC All-Rookie Team, 12 Pts. in 2014)

Key Losses

- Colin Mayer (F | 4 G, 4 A, 8 Pts.)
- Steven Bolton (G | 2.94 GA Avg., .917 Save Pct., 653 saves)
- Tyler Swanson (D | 1 G, 4 A, 5 Pts.)

By the Numbers

- 12: Bethel suffered 12 one goal losses or ties including five of the Royals first six games in 2013-14 that all ended in overtime or shootout losses.
- 7: Bethel only played seven of their 25 games against teams that did not appear in the USCHO Top 15 poll at some point during the 2013-14 season.
- 72 percent: Of the 121 points Bethel players scored in 2013-14, 87 of those points (72%) were scored by players returning for 2013-14.

Did You Know?

- At least 17 Bethel men's hockey graduates are currently coaching as either assistant or head coaches in Minnesota at the high school or collegiate level.

Off the Ice

- Bethel had six MIAC Academic All-Conference honorees in 2013-14, the second most of any team in the MIAC.



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

Head coach

- Chris Howe (7th season)

A Year Ago

- 6-6-4 MIAC (5th place) | 12-9-5 Overall

In the 2014 Postseason

- Lost to St. Olaf 5-3 in the MIAC quarterfinals

Top Returners

- Andrew Deters (F, Sr. | 10 g, 24 a, 34 pts in 2014; 2014 MIAC All-Conference; tied for the MIAC lead in points in conference play)
- Jordan Bancroft (F, Jr. | 9 g, 18 a, 27 pts in 2014; 2014 MIAC All-Conference; 3rd on the team in scoring)
- Garrett Hendrickson (F, So. | 10 g, 13 a, 23 pts in 2014; 2014 MIAC All-Rookie Team; led the MIAC in scoring by a freshman)

Key Losses

- Caleb Suderman (D, 16 g, 14 a, 30 pts in 2014; 2014 AHCA All-American; 2014 Co-MVP of the MIAC; 4-time All-MIAC; led the nation in scoring by a defenseman)
- Chris Neamonitis (G, 2.57 GAA, 92.1% save pct., 8-7-3 in 2014; 3rd in the MIAC in save percentage)

By the Numbers

- 4: Concordia has recorded four straight double-digit win seasons. The longest double-digit win total streak in school history was six years from the 1997-98 season to the 2002-03 campaign.
- 7: Concordia returns seven of the eight players who scored at least four goals in 2013-14.
- 9: The Cobber roster has nine freshmen on it for the 2014-15 season.

Did You Know?

- Cobber junior defenseman Charlie Aus' grandpa coached at St. Olaf.

Off the Ice

- Concordia junior Max Smith founded the inSports Foundation which helps less fortunate children get involved in sports.



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

Head coach

- Brett Petersen (15th season)

A Year Ago

- 12-3-1 MIAC (2nd place) | 16-7-4 Overall

In the 2014 Postseason

- After defeating Saint John's 3-2 in the MIAC Playoff Semifinals, the Gustavus men's hockey team saw its season come to an end with a 2-1 loss to St. Thomas in the MIAC Playoff Championship.

Top Returners

- Tyler Lopic (Forward, Sr., New Prague, Minn.) | Top returning scorer from last year's team, recording six goals and 11 assists for 17 points...Scored one power play goal and one game-winner...Finished season with a rating of +6.
- Jack Walsh (Forward, Sr., Mahtomedi, Minn.) | Two-year team captain...Recorded 11 points off two goals and nine assists last season...Scored one power play, short-handed, and game-winning goal in 2013-14...Has played in 80-of-84 career games with 40 career points (20G, 20A)...Leads the team with 10 career game-winners.
- John McLean (Goaltender, Jr., Eagan, Minn.) | 2013-14 All-Conference honoree...Member of the 2011-12 MIAC All-Rookie Team...Started in 25 of Gustavus's 27 games and logged a total of 1,525:03 minutes last season...Averaged 22.1 saves per game and went 15-6-4 overall with a 1.97 goals against average and a .920 save percentage.

Key Losses

- Corey Leivermann (Forward, North Mankato, Minn.) | AHCA All-American...2013-14 All-Conference honoree...Led Gustavus in scoring with 30 points off a team-best 18 goals and 12 assists last season...Became the program's first 30-point scorer since Ross Ring-Jarvi `12 tallied 33 points in the 2011-12 season...His 0.67 goals per game scoring average ranked 12th in the nation.
- Adam Smyth (Forward, Burnsville, Minn.) | Two-time All-Conference honoree...Ranked second on the team in scoring with 11 goals and eight assists for 19 points last season...Played in 107 games and recorded 73 career points (44G, 29A)...First Gustavus player since Ross Ring-Jarvi `12 to earn All-Conference accolades in back-to-back seasons.

By the Numbers

- 3: The number of consecutive seasons that the Gustavus men's hockey team has reached the MIAC Playoff Championship. The Gusties have qualified for postseason play 13 straight years and have reached the MIAC Playoff Championship five times in the past six seasons.
- 1.97: The overall goals against average of goaltender John McLean last season. McLean was the first Gustavus goaltender in the last 20 years to finish the season with a goals against average under two. Within conference play, McLean posted a goals against average of 1.50.
- 14-0-4: Gustavus's record when scoring the first goal last season. The Gusties were also 11-0-1 when leading after the first period and 13-0-0 when leading after two periods.

Did You Know?

- Senior forward Blake Schammel (Red Wing, Minn.) is one of a select few student-athletes who serves as a member of the Gustavus Student-Athlete Volunteer Educators (SAVE). SAVE is a group of Gusties who are devoted to educating their fellow athletes on healthy lifestyle choices. SAVE members help other athletes make healthy choices by providing them with information, serving as a resource when they face pressures, and by leading by example.

Off the Field

- The Gustavus men's hockey team played an integral role in the College's hosting of the Special Olympics area athletics competition held in early-May. Student-athletes assisted in setup, race organization, timing, and, of course, cheering.



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

Head coach

- Cory Laylin (1st season)

A Year Ago

- 1-15 MIAC (9th place) | 2-22-1 Overall

Top Returners

- Kevin Novakovich (F, Jr. 9 goals, 8 assists – top returning scorer)
- Brandon Zurn (F, Jr., 5 goals, 10 assists)
- Joe Rubbelke (D, Sr., 2 goals, 9 assists in 17 GP – All-MIAC two years in a row)

Key Losses

- Zach Johnson (F, four-year regular, 84 GP, 12 goals)
- Joel Scatterelli (D, four-year regular)

By the Numbers

- 1: number of players on HU roster who did not play junior hockey (Cody Mason)
- 12: number of players returning from 2013-14 roster
- 15: number of new faces on the 2014-15 HU roster.

Did You Know?

- Junior D Jonny Gehrt played 63 games the past two seasons at Division I Army.

Off the Ice

- Mike MacMillan, who is one of two HU assistants, also serves as the Executive Director of the Minnesota High School Hockey Coaches Association. He has held that role since 2006.

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



Head coach

- Doug Schueller (Seventh season)

A Year Ago

- 10-6 MIAC (T-Third place) | 16-10 Overall

In the 2014 Postseason

- MIAC postseason results (Semifinals – lost to Gustavus, 3-2)

Top Returners

- John Haeg (F, Sr. | Three-time All-MIAC first-team selection...led SJU in points for the third consecutive season with 24 (8g/16a) in 2013-14...tied for second in the MIAC in power-play points (1g/6a) and was fifth in assists...is 19 points shy of becoming the 21st Johnnie in school history to reach the 100-point plateau)
- Phil Johnson (F, Sr. | Two-time All-MIAC first-team selection...finished third on the team in points (7g/8a) and second in goals in 2013-14...led the MIAC with two shorthanded goals in conference play)
- Saxton Soley (G, Jr. | 2012-13 MIAC Co-Most Valuable Player...2012-13 All-American...finished third in the MIAC in GAA (1.96), save percentage (.923) and wins (9) in conference play in 2013-14...posted a 14-8 record with two shutouts, a 2.02 GAA and a .925 save percentage in 22 starts overall)

Key Losses

- Justin Hochsprung (F | Tallied 12 points (3g/9a) and was an assistant captain in 2013-14...earned All-MIAC first-team honors in 2012-13)
- Trent Johnson (D | All-MIAC first-team selection as a sophomore in 2011-12...two-time All-MIAC honorable mention the last two seasons...assistant captain as a junior and team captain as a senior...tied for sixth among MIAC defensemen with seven points (2g/5a) in 15 conference games in 2013-14)
- Axel Ramsgard (D | Two-time All-MIAC honorable mention...three-time Academic All-MIAC...registered four assists in 2013-14 and was one of two Johnnies to play in all 26 games...25 points (4g/21a) in 98 career games)

By the Numbers

- 11: SJU won 11 of its last 14 regular-season games to tally a 16-10 record (10-6 MIAC) to finish in a tie for third in the conference and earn its third consecutive trip to the MIAC Playoffs in 2013-14.
- 19: Haeg enters his season season with 81 points (26g/55a) in 78 career games, 19 shy of becoming the 21st Johnnie in school history to reach the 100-point plateau.
- .583: The Johnnies finished third in both penalty kill (.868, 59-for-68) and power play (.212, 11-for-52), but led the league in combined special teams (.583, 70-for-120), in conference play last season.

Did You Know?

- SJU is 37-20-7 (.633) in MIAC, regular-season games after Jan. 1 under the direction of head coach Doug Schueller, including a 23-8-3 record (.721) the last three seasons.

Off the Ice

- The Johnnies have had three or more Academic All-MIAC honorees in eight of the last nine seasons.



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

Head coach

- Bill Moore (Eighth season)

A Year Ago

- 6-10-0 MIAC (7th place) | 10-14-1 Overall

Top Returners

- Bob Marx (6-0, 185, Sr., Def. | 25 GP, 10 G, 7 A, 17 Pts; Second among MIAC defensemen in scoring; Career-highs in goals and points in 2013-14; Honorable-mention All-MIAC in 2013-14)
- Martin Gruse (5-10, 195, So., For. | 25 GP, 6 G, 11 A, 17 Pts; Led team in assists as a freshman)
- Nick Albergo (5-10, 185, So., For. | 24 GP, 9 G, 7 A, 16 Pts | Recorded first collegiate hat trick in 2013-14)

Key Losses

- Bobby Thompson (23 GP, 10 G, 10 A, 20 Pts | Led team in goals, points in 2013-14, honorable-mention All-MIAC)
- Austin Balko (25 GP, 4 G, 5 A, 9 Pts | Honorable-mention All-MIAC in 2012-13)
- Nick Nagel (24 GP, 6 G, 7 A, 13 Pts)

By The Numbers

- 1: In his final start of the season, goalie Phil Heinle (York, Pa.) not only made 22 saves vs. Hamline on Feb. 23, but also notched his first collegiate assist — marking the first time since Dan Byron during the 2000-2001 season that a Cardinal goalie has recorded an assist.
- 10: Saint Mary's 10 wins in 2013-14 were the most since the Cardinals went 11-13-1 during the 2004-05 season.
- 11: The Cardinals graduated 11 regulars off last year's roster.

Did You Know?

- Nick Albergo (Elmhurst, Ill.) recorded his first collegiate hat trick against Bethel on Jan. 18. The hat trick marked the first time since Mike Glaesmer scored four goals at Hamline on Dec 6, 2008 that Saint Mary's boasted a player with three or more goals in a game.

Off The Ice

- The Cardinals have two circle-the-date events on this year's schedule. Saint Mary's will honor all veterans with Veterans Appreciation Night on Feb. 13 against Concordia, and the Cardinals' Nov. 9 contest against St. Thomas will include the Fifth Annual Teddy Bear Toss — after the first Saint Mary's 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 (18th season)

A Year Ago

- 9-4-3 MIAC (3rd place) | 12-11-4 Overall

In the 2014 Postseason

- Defeated Concordia 5-4 in first round, lost 2-1 to St. Thomas in semifinals

Top Returners

- Peter Lindblad (F, Jr. | All-MIAC, 15 goals, 7 assists)
- Steven Sherman (F, So. | 18 points on four goals, 14 assists as first year)
- Steve Papiak (G, Sr. | 11-8-4, 2.45 GAA, .912 save percentage)

Key Losses

- Dan Cecka (F | All-MIAC, 100 career games, led team in points (31), goals (18) in 2013-14)
- Dylan Porter (F | 105 career games.)



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

Head coach

- Jeff Boeser (5th season)

A Year Ago

- 13-1-2 MIAC (1st place) | 21-5-2 Overall

In the 2014 Postseason

- MIAC Playoff Champions: defeated St. Olaf 2-1 in the Semifinals, defeated Gustavus 2-1 in the Final.
- NCAA postseason: fell to UW-Stevens Point 3-0 in the Quarterfinals.

Top Returners

- Alex Altenbernd (Forward, Sr. | 2013-14 AHCA First Team All-American; 2x All-MIAC (2012-13, 2013-14); 2011-12 MIAC All-Rookie Team; 2011-12 All-MIAC Honorable Mention... Top-10 in MIAC in goals (11/t-6th), assists (13/t-8th), and points (24/t-8th) in last season... Career: 80 games, 25 goals, and 31 assists)
- Drew Fielding (Goalie, Sr. | 2013-14 AHCA Second Team All-American; 2013-14 Co-Player of the Year; 2x All-MIAC (2012-13, 2013-14); 2011-12 All-MIAC Honorable Mention... Led NCAA Division III in shutouts (7); ranked 3rd in NCAA Division III in goals against average (1.43) and save percentage (.942) a year ago... Career: 60 games, .932 save%, 1.65 GAA, 38-16-4, 14 shutouts)
- Michael Krieg: (Defense, Sr. | 2012-13 AHCA Second Team All-American; 2x All-MIAC (2012-13, 2013-14); 2011-12 MIAC All-Rookie Team; 2011-12 All-MIAC Honorable Mention... Career: 79 games, 12 goals, 24 assists)

Key Losses

- Tyler Gubb (Forward | 2013-14 Captain... 2x All-MIAC (2012-13, 2013-14)... Career: 40 games, 15 goals, 17 assists)
- Alex Niestrom (Forward | 2013-14 Alternate Captain... 2013-14 All-MIAC Honorable Mention... Career: 79 games, 15 goals, 11 assists)

By the Numbers

- 3: The number of All-Americans returning for the 2014-15 season. Seniors Alex Altenbernd, Drew Fielding, and Michael Krieg have all earned AHCA All-American status. Altenbernd and Fielding were voted first and second team, respectively, last season, while Krieg was a second team selection following the 2012-13 season.
- 5: The number of teams ranked in last year's USCHO.com Top 15 Division III Men's Hockey Poll that St. Thomas will face in 2014-15. The Tommies take on UW-Stevens Point (No. 2), St. Scholastica (No. 14), UW-River Falls (No. 15), UW-Eau Claire (No. 9), and Gustavus (No. 12) for a total of six games this season.
- 829: The collective number of games played in a St. Thomas jersey by this year's 24 returners.

Did You Know?

- St. Thomas has not missed the MIAC Playoffs in the 29-year history of the current format.

Off the Ice

- The 2014-15 Tommie roster features players from three different countries; the United States, Canada, and Sweden. Within Canada, players hail from three different provinces. Likewise, in the U.S., team members claim hometowns in eight different states, including Minnesota, Pennsylvania, Arizona, North Dakota, Wisconsin, Alaska, South Dakota, and North Carolina.

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