



2001 MIAC MEN'S OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD PREVIEW

The 2001 MIAC Outdoor Track and Field Championship will be held May 11-12, 2001 hosted by Carleton College in Northfield, Minn (with the heptathlon and decathlon taking place May 3 and 4 at Carleton). Watch for the University of St. Thomas to continue their dominance as they have won the men's outdoor championship 16 out of the past 18 years.

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Augsburg College

Head Coach: Dennis Barker

2000 MIAC Championship: 10th

Key Returners: (Name, Yr, Pos, Highlight)

Desman Oakley (Sr., Indianola, Iowa) Hurdler

Eric Bloemendal (Sr., Huntsville, Ontario) Distance runner

Christian Dawson (Jr., Invercargill, New Zealand/Cargill HS) Distance runner

Season Preview:

Several quality athletes are returning to an Augsburg College track and field program that continues to build numbers and depth for head coach Dennis Barker. Nine new school records were set during the indoor half of the track and field season in 2000, and combined with nine new outdoor marks, the quality of the Auggie track and field program continues to improve.

For the men's indoor squad, Barker noted that the team's strength will be in sprints and relay events. Desman Oakley (Sr., Indianola, Iowa) has been Augsburg's top hurdler throughout his career, and holds each indoor and outdoor hurdle mark. A Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference champion in the 55-meter hurdles two seasons ago, he finished second in the event last year at the league meet.

Distance runner Eric Bloemendal (Sr., Huntsville, Ontario) missed the indoor season last year battling injuries, but returns healthy this year, and will be joined by Christian Dawson (Jr., Invercargill, New Zealand/Cargill HS), who finished third in both the 1,000 and 1,500-meter runs at the MIAC meet.

On the women's side, Chrissy Baune (Jr., Marshall, Minn.), who owns nearly every middle distance school record, returns to defend her All-MIAC honors in three events -- the 3,000-(second), 800- and 1,500-meter (third each) runs. Teresa Lewandowski (Sr., Hastings, Minn.), who was injured just before the MIAC meet, also should shine in the middle distance events. She holds the school's mark in the outdoor 800-meter run.

Jen Eckman (Sr., Superior, Wis.) has shown improvement in the weights for the Auggies and should be a factor in the conference indoor weight events, Barker said.

Bethel College

Head Coach: Mike Goldman (9th year)

2000 MIAC Championship: 8th

Key Returners: (Name, Yr, Pos, Highlight)

KeSung Anderson, Sr. New Brighton, MN (Middle distance)

Shawn Hamilton, Sr. Bemidji, MN (Shot Put)

Mike Johnson, So. Pine City, MN (Sprints)

Mike Luedtke, Sr. Minneapolis, MN (Jumps) (Bethel's current record holder in the long jump)

Peter Paulson, Jr. Cambridge, MN (Triple Jump)

Ryan Hickman, Sr. Paso Rables, CA (Sprints)

Kevin Lightner, Jr. Windom, MN (Middle Distance)

Brent Warren, So. Paddock Lake, MN (Middle Distance)

Season Preview:

After graduating many of their top athletes in 2000, Coach Mike Goldman hopes that a quality group of newcomers added to the

veterans will propel the Royals into the top half of the MIAC.

Sprints: Sophomore Mike Johnson (Pine City, MN), an All-MIAC fullback in football, will lead a talented group of sprinters. Also looking to add points to the Bethel cause will be returners Ryan Hickman (Paso Robles, CA), Brian Wiger, Bryan Lemke (Des Moines, IA), and Justin Lindgren (Rhinelander, WI). Newcomer Nate Klint, a junior from Shoreview, Minn., transferred from NDSU and will be looked to contribute in the 100 and 200 meter events. Coach Goldman hopes sophomore Pete Corneia (Maple Grove, MN) and freshman Kyle Peterson (Cambridge, MN), Andy Aldridge (Northfield, MN), and Matt Moberg (Houghton, MI) will also develop in the sprints.

Distances: Senior KeSung Anderson (New Brighton, MN) will continue to lead the Royals. He holds Bethel's school record in the 800m and was the MIAC Champion in 1998. Returners Kevin Lightner (Windom, MN) and Brent Warren (Paddock Lake, WI) hope to continue their improvement and make significant contributions to the team.

Jumps: Senior Mike Luedtke (Alexandria, MN) is Bethel's current record holder in the long jump (23'.75") and is the top returning long jumper in the MIAC. Junior Pete Paulson (Cambridge, MN) has been a consistent conference meet placer in the triple jump in his first two years of competition and will look to climb in the MIAC ranks. Also looking to contribute points for the Royals are high jumper Kyle Leaf (Cambridge, MN) and pole vaulters Sam Anderson (Stanchfield, MN) and Justin Trann (Northfield, MN). Newcomers Kyle Peterson, Justin Speck (Rockford, IL), and Joel Olson (Becker, MN).

Throws: Returner Shawn Hamilton (Bemidji, MN) will look to lead Bethel in the field events. Hamilton has shown good potential and Coach Goldman hopes that he can contribute points for the Royals.

Carleton College

Head Coach: Bill Terriquez (17th season)

2000 MIAC Championship: 9th

Key Returners: (Name, Yr, Pos, Highlight)

Andy Sherman (Sr./Mequon, Wis.), distance;

Bryan Donald (So./St. Paul, Minn./ Central), middle distance

Paul Morrissey (Jr./North Oaks, Minn.), jumps

Paul Anderson (Sr./Boulder, Mont.), distance

Kurt Fitter (Sr./Manna, N.D.), pole vault

Season Preview:

Carleton will use a deep distance crew and some solid individuals in the sprints and field events in a drive to return to the Mica's elite. They must overcome the loss of sprinter Aaron Golden, jumper Tom Bauer, and distance leader Dan Schooner. Sherman, who was named the Mica's Most Outstanding Performer at the indoor championships, will pace the strong distance team. Anderson was an All-MIAC performer last season, placing second in the 5,000 meters. Fitter placed second in the pole vault in the indoor championships and will score valuable points for the Knights during the outdoor season. Sprinter Rob Williams got off to a fast start during the indoor season, and the Knights need him to return to his early-season form during the outdoor season. Sophomore Graham Zorro and senior Carl Tape paces the middle distance events for the Knights.



Concordia College

Head Coach: Garrick Larson (8th season)

2000 MIAC Championship: 2nd

Key Returners: (Name, Yr, Pos, Highlight)

Chris Goebel (Sr., Albany, MN) - Distance - MIAC Champion in the 1000 & 2nd place in the 1500 at the 2001 MIAC Indoor Championships; NCAA Championship participant in the 1500 at the 2000 NCAA Outdoor Championships.

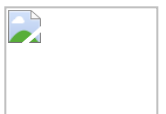
Joe Schmidgall (Jr., Morris, MN) - Jumps - School Record Holder in the High Jump; 14th in the High Jump at the 2000 NCAA Outdoor Championships. Third place in the High Jump at the 2001 MIAC Indoor Championships.

Adam Strainer (Sr., Helena, MT) - Pentathlon - Defending MIAC Champion in the Decathlon; Finished sixth at the 2000 NCAA Outdoor Championships in the Decathlon; Pentathlon champion at the 2001 MIAC Indoor Championships;

Season Preview:

Concordia College will be looking to equal last year's success at the MIAC Outdoor Championships when they finished second. The Cobbers are fresh off their fourth straight "top three" performance at the MIAC Indoor Meet. The outdoor team will feature several athletes who participated in last year's NCAA Outdoor Championship Meet, and will be hoping to improve on those performances.

Captain Adam Strainer (Sr., Helena, MT), the defending decathlon champion, will lead a talented group of jumpers. Strainer finished second in the triple jump at the MIAC indoor meet. He will be called upon to score points in both events. Joe Schmidgall (Jr., Morris,



MN) has been a participant at the last two NCAA Championship Meets in the high jump and is hoping to finally break through to all-american status. The Cobbers will once again be strong in the middle distance events as Chris Goebel (Sr., Albany, MN), who finished first in the 1000 and second in the 1500 at the MIAC indoor meet, will be the anchor of the distance corps. Goebel qualified for the national outdoor meet in 2000 in the 1500 and will be looking to cap off his college career by earning a repeat trip to the national meet. Right behind Goebel is teammate Steve Edlund (Sr., Cyrus, MN) who finished second in the 3000 and third in the 5000 at the MIAC indoor meet.

Gustavus Adolphus College

Head Coach: Tom Thorkelson (2nd Season)

2000 MIAC Championship: 5th

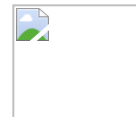
Key Returners: (Name, Yr, Pos, Highlight)

Jerry Washington, SO, Sprints (2nd place in 100-m dash at MIAC Championship, NCAA Qualifier)

Luke Speltz, SO, Rollingstone, Minn.: Throws (Conference champion in the shot put)

Season Preview:

The Gusties are looking to improve on last year's fifth place finish at the MIAC Outdoor meet. Head Coach Tom Thorkelson feels that the team is definitely deeper due to the addition of 20 freshmen. While he concedes that the newcomers are an unknown quantity at the collegiate level the group brings strong credentials at the high school level. The team returns All-Conference sprinter Jerry Washington and conference shot put champion Luke Speltz. Both made significant contributions last year as freshmen. Mike Henderson will be a solid contributor in the distance events for the Gusties. Other top returners include seniors Hal DeLaRosby and Bjorn Knudson, who are solid middle distance runners and key contributors on relay teams.



Hamline University

Head Coach: Paul Schmaedeke (20th season at Hamline)

2000 MIAC Championship: 6th

Key Returners: (Name, Yr, Pos, Highlight)

Season Preview:

The 2001 men's track and field team is looking forward to another strong and successful season. The Piper thinclads will be working hard at improving on their fourth place team finish during the MIAC Indoor Meet as well as improving on their sixth place team finish in the MIAC Outdoor Meet.

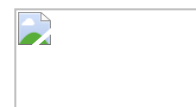
The team will be lead by junior tri-captain Ben Nyquist who is a two time MIAC Champ in the discus as well as a two time NCAA Div. III All-America who finished second in the national meet last spring. Joining Ben in leading the team are senior tri-captain Chuck Dusbabek, a middle distance runner who lead off the last year's school record setting 4 X 800 relay team (8:46.33, 1:56.7 split) as well as senior tri-captain and distance runner Eric Kaluza(15:39 5K).

In keeping with traditions established over the years the the Pipers are looking to be strong once again in the throws, relays, long sprints and middle distances. Leading the way in the sprints will be versatile juniors Kevin Drake(400-50.35, 200-22.50) and Frank Marchio (Hurdles -15.57, IM-56.48, 400 split-50.0) who will cover their individual events as well as run legs in both the 4 x 100 an 4 x400 relays. Other returners who will be strong contributors to the sprint crew are senior Brian Taurinskas (100-11.47, 200-23.17), who runs 100 to the 400 and becomes even stronger with a baton in his hand; junior John Adegoke (51.10), a 400 guy who is looking to take some big drops in 2000; sophomores Tony Schumann (100-11.22, 200-22.33, 400 split-50.4) and Brian Lempola(100-11.25, 200-23.14) a couple of young, talented and versatile runners who will be big contributors in both sprint relays; sophomore Dave Roper, a 400 meter specialist who is returning from an injury plagued first year but expected to be contender for a leg in the 4 x400; and junior short sprint specialists Steve Ennis and Joey Kvamme, two of the hardest workers and toughest competitors on the team.

Returning in the middle distances are senior Brett Nichols (800-1:58.67, 800 split-1:57.9), who has been core member of the 4 x 800 relay team for the past 3 years; junior Jason Altman (1500-4:06.28, 800-1:59.45), who made big drops as a sophomore and is one of the toughest competitors on the team; sophomore Mike Baker (800-1:54.21, 400-49.69, 400 split-48.5) had an outstanding first year for the Pipers and is determined to be even better in 2000; and sophomore Justin Steen (800-2:00.96, 1500-4:10.45), who is on the verge of a big break through can be a big point scorer this year.

Tri-captain Kaluza will be leading the distance crew of senior Chad Sellers (5k-15:41.70), who had a break through season last year and looking to be even better this spring; sophomores Tom Kreger (5k-15:30.87), started with a strong first year and is working hard to put himself in the position of being one of top conference 5k folks this spring; and Steve Brandon, who is fighting through injuries working hard to establish a presence on the track.

Arriving in the First Year class are a number of good athletes who are expected to provide depth and aid in scoring on the track and in the field. Wyatt Ammon (Dell Rapids, SD) will add punch to the 400 meter crew; Will Sallee (Spencer, WI) will strengthen the hurdle



group; Peter Kuznia (St. Francis) will be a welcome addition to the middle distance team; and Cory Kahl (Mosinee, WI) and J.J. Galle (Herron Lake, Mn) will bolster the horizontal jumpers.

Macalester College

Head Coach: Martin Peper (8th season)

2000 MIAC Championship: 7th

Key Returners: (Name, Yr, Pos, Highlight)

Kajerero Ssebbaale (Jr., Tutume, Botswana); All-America; 2-time MIAC indoor triple jump champ

Eric Klinker (Sr., Estelline, SD) - 4th in 55m hurdles in MIAC in '00; All-American hurdler at '00 NCAA outdoor meet.

Season Preview:

Optimism runs very high for Macalester's 2001 men's indoor track and field season and it's easy to see why as the Scots return a pair of All-America athletes in hurdler Eric Klinker (Sr., Estelline, S.D.) and triple jumper Kajerero Ssebbaale (Jr., Tutume, Botswana).

Ssebbaale is a three-time indoor national participant in the triple jump and is going for his third trip to nationals outdoors. He's earned All-America honors twice both indoors and outdoors. The talented Klinker put it all together last Spring as a junior and produced his best season yet in the hurdles. Klinker won the MIAC outdoor championship easily in the 110-meter high hurdles (14.47) and 400-meter intermediate hurdles (54.17) with NCAA qualifying times. At nationals he just missed getting into the high hurdle finals but qualified in the 400 meters with a school-record 52.41 time and placed seventh to secure his first All-America certificate.

Although Macalester lost two of the MIAC's best track and field stars to graduation in high jumper/hurdler John Shepard and distance standout Brandon Guthrie, there are still plenty of talented performers back to team with Klinker and Ssebbaale to give the Scots hope of moving up in the conference.

Eighth-year coach Martin Peper will seek improvement from potential key point-scorers like Shingai Mukurazita (Sr., Harare, Zimbabwe) in the triple jump; Gerald Wilson (Jr., Montezuma, N.M.) and Andy Reinsch (Sr., Bethesda, Md.) in the sprints, Ben Knudson (Sr., Hastings, Neb.) in the distance events, Toby Schwartz (Jr., Nicosia, Cyprus) in the throws, and Shaun Krueger (Sr., Madison, Wis.) in the jumps.

Saint John's University

Head Coach: Tim Miles (22nd season)

2000 MIAC Championship: 3rd

Key Returners: (Name, Yr, Pos, Highlight)

Nick Thoemke, Sr., distance, third in 10,000-meters at 2000 MIAC outdoor meet and 2000 MIAC cross country champion

Jed Kassulke, Jr., hurdler, second in 55-meter hurdles at 2001 MIAC indoor meet

Erik Hanson, Sr., sprinter/decathlete, seventh in 400-meter dash and eighth in decathlon at 2000 MIAC outdoor meet

Dan Scherer, Sr., sprinter, eighth in 100 and 200-meter dashes at 2000 MIAC outdoor meet

John Workman, Sr., vaulter, fifth in pole vault at 2000 MIAC outdoor meet, seventh in pole vault at 2001 MIAC indoor meet

Season Preview:

The Saint John's University outdoor track and field team is looking to improve in 2001 on its third place finish at last year's MIAC meet. SJU won MIAC outdoor track and field titles in 1997 and 1999. SJU returns 14 athletes that have scored at the MIAC championship meet. The Johnnies will be without both of its national meet qualifiers - John Krueger and Phil Barry - from 2000 due to graduation. The Johnnies will look to senior Nick Thoemke, 2000 MIAC cross country champion, to anchor the distance races. Junior Jed Kassulke, 2000 MIAC indoor 55-meter hurdle champion, will also be key to SJU's success. The Johnnies will once again be coached by Tim Miles, who has guided the cross country and track and field programs at SJU for 22 years.

Saint Mary's University

Head Coach: Paul Thornton (1st season)

2000 MIAC Championship: 11th

Key Returners: (Name, Yr, Pos, Highlight)

Chris Beach (Jr., Maple Grove, Minn., Decathlon)

Season Preview:

Paul Thornton will be the first to admit that he's no miracle worker.

He can't walk on water, make it rain at the snap of his fingers — and he can't transform the Saint Mary's University track and field

teams into conference champions in a year.

Give him two or three years — now that's another story.

'There's no question our goal is to become a conference power,' admitted Thornton. 'But that's not something that's going to happen overnight — it's going to take some time.'

And, while Thornton may be a patient man, he does expect to begin seeing early results of his team's transformation.

Right now.

'I've challenged these teams,' Thornton said. 'I know it's going to take some time for everyone to buy into my system, my ideals and my way of doing things. But if they stick with it and give me 100 percent every day, the successes won't be far behind.'

In fact, Thornton has already seen dramatic improvement — and his team hasn't even had a meet yet.

'In one of our first practices of the season, we had everyone run six 400s at their own pace with two minutes rest in between. Most of them quit after three,' explained Thornton. 'We did the same thing a month later, and people were doing anywhere from eight to 16, so it's obvious we are on the right track.'

Where that track will lead, however, is a question Thornton has no answer for.

Yet.

'Right now, my expectations are for us to do better than we ever have before,' said Thornton, who is looking for veterans like Chris Beach (Maple Grove, Minn.), Clara Setzer (Red Wing, Minn.) and Kari Pederson (Hastings, Minn.) to lead the way. 'I firmly believe that this year, our women's team can finish as high as seventh — and score in up to 10 events. On the men's side, our men's team is looking to make a top-10 finish — and score in at least eight events.'

And that's just the tip of the iceberg.

'The challenge for me as coach is to maximize the abilities of each and every athlete,' Thornton said. 'And by doing that, hopefully, we will be able to broaden the horizons when it comes to our expectations.'

'Right now, it is a huge accomplishment for any of our athletes to qualify for the conference championships,' continued Thornton. 'For a number of teams, qualifying (for the conference championships) isn't an accomplishment, but rather, an expectation.'

'That's where we want to get to.'

St. Olaf College

Head Coach: Bill Thornton (31st season)

2000 MIAC Championship: 4th

Key Returners: (Name, Yr, Pos, Highlight)

Mark Bresnan Sr. 800M 2-Time All-American/School Record Holder

Jonathan Berg Sr. Decathlon/Long Jump 2-Time National Qualifier

Cory Dingels Jr. High Jump/Long Jump All-American/Conference Champion/ Central Region Athlete of Year

Jonathon Pearce Sr. 400M 4th Outdoor Meet (2000)

Marcus Hanson So. Throwing Events 2nd Indoor Shot

Season Preview:

The Oles finished fourth by scoring 93.5 points in the 2000 MIAC Outdoor Championships. Some of the top returning placers from the 2000 Championships include senior tri-captains Jonathan Berg (Golden Valley, MN), who finished third in both the decathlon and long jump, and has been a two-time national qualifier in the decathlon; Jonathon Pearce (Lawrence, KS), who has finished fourth in the 400M dash; Mark Bresnan (Indianola, IA), All-American and school record holder. Bresnan completed his 2000 outdoor season by finishing seventh in the NCAA 800M championships in a school record time of 1:51.04.

All-American and school record holder Cory Dingels (Jr., Gibbon, MN) finished second in the long jump and third in the high jump. Dingels concluded last season as the MIAC Athlete of the Meet and finished this year's Indoor season as the MVP of the Central Region.



University of St. Thomas

Head Coach: Steve Mathre (6th season)

2000 MIAC Championship: 1st

Key Returners: (Name, Yr, Pos, Highlight)

Roman Cress, JR, 2000 NCAA indoor runner-up in 55 meters, injured 2001 indoors

Ryan Kollmann, SR, 2000 NCAA indoor runner-up at 1,500 meters, 4-time All-American

Mark Bates, SO, 4x400 Relay All-American

Craig Benson, SO, 110 hurdles All-American

Jeremy Heckman, SR, 4x100 and 4x400 relay All-American, 17-time MIAC champ in sprints/relays

Andrew Hilliard, SO, 4x400 All-American

Justin Hall, SO, 4x100 and 4x400 relay All-American, 2001 All-American 400 meters

Nick Stahly, JR, 4x100 All-American

Season Preview:

The 2001 St. Thomas men's track and field team made it 17-for-17 in all-time MIAC indoor track team championships -- the longest current team title streak in any sport in the conference. They Toms topped runner-up St. Olaf by 18 points despite holding out injured All-Americans Roman Cress and Ryan Kollmann. Senior Jeremy Heckman had a hand in three victories, Chris Milton won the pole vault, and the Toms won the 4x200 and 4x400 relays.

Also, Justin Hall earned All-America honors with a sixth-place NCAA finish in the 400 meters, and senior Mike Gruba, the MIAC runner-up, qualified for nationals.

In the 2001 outdoor season, the Toms will try to continue their dominance in MIAC championship meets. UST has won 16 of the last 18 conference team crowns.

Returning MIAC outdoor champs for the Toms are Cress in the 100 and 200; Hall in the 400; Kollmann in the 1500; Milton in the pole vault; the 4x100 relay team of Nick Stahly, Hall, Heckman and Cress; and the 4x400 relay team of Andrew Hilliard, Mark Bates, Jason Villar and Hall.

At least four members of the Toms' 2000 MIAC cross country championship team will boost the distance events -- Kollmann, Nic Maddox, Brian Preus and Dan Driane.

2000 MIAC Men's Track and Field Championship Results: MEN'S RESULTS

Archive:

[2000 Championship](#)

[1999 Championship Results / Story](#)

[1998 Championship Page/Results](#)

2000 Team Scores

PL	TEAM	POINTS
1	St. Thomas	198.5
2	Concordia	117.0
3	Saint John's	111.5
4	St. Olaf	93.5
5	Gustavus	93.0
6	Hamline	66.0
7	Macalester	65.5
8	Bethel	53.0
9	Carleton	40.0
10	Augsburg	16.0
11	St. Mary's	3.0