

2000-01 MIAC MEN'S SWIMMING PREVIEW

The 2000-01 MIAC men's swimming and diving season kicks off with the MIAC Relays on October 28, 2000, hosted by the College of St. Catherine.

Gustavus Adolphus College placed first at last year's conference championship, upsetting favorite St. Olaf. The Oles won 20 consecutive titles from 1970 to 1999, and are expected to remain strong in 2000-01. The Gusties are also in the hunt for the 2001 championship after their surprise MIAC win last winter. This season's MIAC Championship will take place at the University Aquatic Center on the campus of the University of Minnesota, February 15-17, 2001.

Carleton College

Head Coach: Andy Clark (8th season)

2000 MIAC Championship: 4th (5-4 duals / 4-3 MIAC)

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

*Jason Brown (So./Madison, Wis./James Madison Memorial), 2000 MIAC 200 freestyle champion, also third in 100 freestyle and part of two All-MIAC relay squads.

*Lars Brudvig (Sr./Hamden, Conn.), All-MIAC in 1650 freestyle (second) and 400 IM (third) in 2000

*Dave Schnell (So./Macon, Ga./Mount De Sales Academy), All-MIAC in 400 medley relay in 2000

*Chris Rupp (Jr./St. Paul, Minn./Central)

Season Preview:

With a strong returning group of veterans, Carleton looks to break its string of recent fourth-place finishes at the MIAC Championships in 2000-01. "What we lack in depth we make up for in team chemistry, focus and enthusiasm in addition to our abilities, which will allow us to achieve top results at the end of the season," Clark remarked. Clark expects his team to be strong in the relays this season, as the Knights placed in the top four in every single relay in the 2000 MIAC Championships, except in the 800 freestyle relay where their first-place finish was disallowed after premature celebration. While the Knights will lack a strong diving presence, he is hopeful that a strong group of newcomers can progress and offer solid contributions by the end of the season.



Gustavus Adolphus College

Head Coach: Jon Carlson (11th season / 42-32)

2000 MIAC Championship: 1st (7-0 dual / 6-0 MIAC)

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

*Jeff Simonson, JR, freestyle, backstroke; 1st swimmer in GAC history to score 100 individual points at conference meet in first two years, record holder in five relays.

*Nick Brase, Sophomore freestyle; All-America HM in five relays, All-Conf in four events in 2000.

*Nick Early, JR, freestyle, IM; top point scorer for conference champions, won 5 conf. events last year, All-America HM in five relays, holds two school records.

*Chris Price, JR, backstroke, freestyle, butterfly; All-Conf performer in every individual event competed in since freshman year, conf. champion in 400 free, 400 medley relay in 2000.

*Reid Foster, JR, backstroke, butterfly; incredible team performer who finished in the top five in all individual events at conference in first two years with the team, great taper swimmer.

Season Preview:

After compiling an overall dual meet record of 7-0 and finishing first at the MIAC Championships during the 1999-00 season, the Gustavus men's swimming team is anticipating a season of continued success in 2000-01. Although the Gusties will miss graduated seniors Erik Lindstrom, Joe Majewski, Brian Smith, and James Wetherbee, Coach Carlson is excited about the talented class of first year students, including Sam Wigersma and sophomore transfer Chris Kramer, and believes this team will be able to contend for another MIAC title. The Gusties will start the season with a pair of important dual meets against conference rivals Carleton and St. Olaf which will set the stage for the season. The team will begin its taper in early February in preparation for the MIAC Championships which will be held at the University of Minnesota on February 15-17. After capturing its first title in 40 years, the Gusties are excited about the opportunity to claim back-to-back championships in the 2000-01 MIAC season.



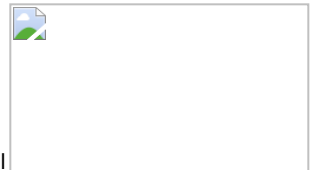
Hamline University

Head Coach: Gayle Schurz (2nd season)

2000 MIAC Championship: 8th

Season Preview:

The 2000-2001 Piper Men's swim team will be dealing with smaller numbers this season than last season- a team of 4 individuals, and will have to rely heavily on experience and versatility to keep their efforts competitive in the MIAC Conference. All four returners have experienced successful seasons at Hamline with repeated personal and seasonal best efforts. Of the Piper's that competed in the 2000 Conference Championships, 80% of their efforts were personal records and the other 20% were seasonal best times. This team has goals to improve their dual meet point totals. After three weeks of dedicated training with a focus on performance enhancement, they will surpass their goals this year.



Macalester College

Head Coach: Bob Pearson (12th season)

2000 MIAC Championship: 6th (1-5 overall / 1-4 MIAC)

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

Tim Wallace (Jr., Catonsville, MD)

Matt Everhart (Jr., Tumwater, WA)

Rob Thoms (Jr., Rhinelander, WI)

Erik Nelson (So., Minneapolis, MN)

Season Preview:

Macalester is looking to improve upon last year's sixth-place MIAC finish and will rely on returning letter winners to get the job done. The Scots still have



breaststroke and butterfly specialist Tim Wallace, a team captain, leading the way. Captain Rob Thoms is back for his senior season following a study abroad experience last year. Other key returners include Matt Everhart, Joe Hanes and Erik Nelson.

Saint John's University

Head Coach: Bill Saxton (3rd season)

2000 MIAC Championship: 3rd

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

Luke Vestrum, So., Breaststroke/IM, '00 MIAC champ in 200 backstroke, 200 IM; '00 All-MIAC in six events

Andy Stern, So., IM, All-MIAC in 800 freestyle relay; top five finish at '00 MIAC meet in 1,650 freestyle, 400 IM

Christian Filiaggi, Sr., Distance, top six finish at '00 MIAC meet in 1,650 freestyle, 200 butterfly, 500 freestyle

Dan Morgan, So., Breaststroke/IM, All-MIAC in 200 medley relay; top six finish at '00 MIAC meet in 200 breaststroke, 400 IM

Jared Darveaux, Jr., Diving/Butterfly/Freestyle, top five finish at '00 MIAC meet in one and three-meter diving

Season Preview:

The Saint John's University swimming and diving team enters the 2000-01 season coming off of a third place finish at last year's MIAC championship meet. The Johnnies will need to replace six seniors from last year's roster, including Soren Peterson, who was SJU's only NCAA championship participant in 2000.

Peterson won the MIAC title in the 50-yard freestyle and finished in 26th place nationally. Coming into the season, SJU has over 25 people on its roster and are excited about the prospects for the season. The Johnnies return sophomore Luke Vestrum, who won MIAC titles in 2000 in the 200 backstroke and 200 IM. SJU will once again be coached by Bill Saxton. Saxton, in his third season in Collegeville, has led the Johnnies to two consecutive third place finishes at the MIAC meet.

Complete preview can be found at: www.csbsju.edu/sjusports/swimpre01.html



Saint Mary's University

Head Coach: Eric Lindquist (2nd season)

2000 MIAC Championship: 7th

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

Shawn McCarthy (Sr., Crystal Lake, Ill., breaststroke, SMU record in 100 and 200 breaststroke)

Ben Chastek (Jr., St. Paul, Minn., breaststroke)

Season Preview:

Eric Lindquist will be the first to admit that it takes a lot of patience to build a successful swimming and diving program. But the Saint Mary's University head coach is running out of patience, it's time for his teams to make a move out of the cellar of the MIAC.



"You are always looking to improve your numbers, to build that solid foundation," Lindquist said. "But there comes a time when you need to start focusing on quality and not so much just on quantity."

For the first time since Lindquist has been involved in the program, the Cardinals have both. Led by co-captains Shawn McCarthy (Crystal Lake, Ill.) and Luke Sassolino (Chicago, Ill.), the men's team is completely intact from a year ago, and the addition of four freshmen make the group deeper than it's ever been.

"We've set some pretty lofty goals," admitted the second-year head coach. "We want to improve our dual-meet record (the SMU went 2-4 in six duals), and, more importantly, we want to improve our standing at the conference meet."

Lindquist isn't about to predict a conference championship from either of his squads, but he does expect both teams to make the climb up a few rungs of the MIAC ladder. "It's almost like the MIAC is divided into different plateaus," explained Lindquist, whose men's team finished seventh a year ago. "At the top, you have teams like Gustavus and St. Olaf, perennial swimming powers. From there, there's a significant drop-off to the next plateau, but it's there, the third, fourth, fifth spots in the conference, that we're gunning for."

And if expectation turns into execution, Lindquist is confident that's exactly where you will find the Cardinals when all the conference-meet dust settles. "Last year was a bit of a learning year for everyone involved with the program," said Lindquist of his first season as the Cardinals' head coach. "The team needed to get used to my expectations, and I had to adjust to life as a head coach, as well as to what these individuals were capable of."

"Now, everyone knows what I expect, they know about my mandatory two-a-days, all season long, they know what it's like to train hard all season, to swim tired, and they know that my system works. "That's one of the biggest reasons why my expectations are so much higher this year."

That, and the return of such swimmers as McCarthy, who set school records in both breaststrokes a year ago; Ben Chastek (St. Paul, Minn.), who, thanks to a rigorous off-season workout program, figures to have a break-through season.

"I'm excited and everyone on this team is excited about this year," Lindquist said. "This program has definitely turned the corner, now it's time for us to prove we're ready to make the jump to that next plateau."

St. Olaf College

Head Coach: Dave Hauck (35th season)

2000 MIAC Championship: 2nd (MIAC 5-1, Overall 6-3)

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

Gabe Kortuem (Sr., 1-3 M Diving)

Eric Kubat (Sr., Individual Medley, Backstroke, Butterfly),

Ryan Palmer (Sr., Distance Free-Style) All-American

Kyle Rudser (Jr., 1-3 M Diver)

Rich Maletto (Sr., Breaststroke)

Season Preview:

Hoping to regain their number one spot in the MIAC, St. Olaf Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving look forward to the 2000-01 season. Returning much of



their core from the previous season and numerous All-Conference selections, the St. Olaf men's and women's swim team will look to their respective Most Valuable Athletes in Gabe Kortuem (Sr., Andover, MN) and Chrissy Soule (Sr., Mound, MN).

University of St. Thomas

Head Coach: Tom Hodgson (starting 22nd season)

2000 MIAC Championship: 5th

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

Steve Klugherz, SR, Prior Lake, Diver, 3X NCAA qualifier

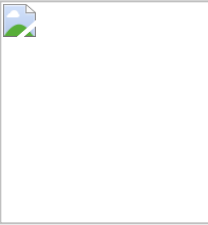
Chris Bindert, SR, Maple Grove/Osseo), Free/Fly

Andrew Skirka (SR-Fridley), Breast/IM

Todd Sorensen (SR-Monticello), Free

Season Preview:

All-American and three-time NCAA diving qualifier Steve Klugherz (SR-Prior Lake) leads a small, but potent group of Tommie swimmers and divers into the 2000-2001 season. Klugherz and captains Chris Bindert (SR-Maple Grove/Osseo), Drew Skirka (SR-Fridley), and Todd Sorensen (SR-Monticello) lead a strong returning core. Nick Schleder (SO-Forest Lake), Abe Hedtke (SO-Monticello), join Jon Waataja (SO-Golden Valley), Keith Murphy (SR-Hutchinson) and Greg Aulwes (SR-Brooklyn Center/Robbinsdale Cooper) as likely scorers at the MIAC Championships. Newcomer Eric Lindell (FR-Shoreview/Mounds View) could potentially be a force in the backstroke, and joins Hedtke and Schleder to give the Tommies a solid 1-2-3 punch in the backstroke, and a great start in the medley relay. "We've always been a team capable of building from within," says UST head coach Tom Hodgson, "and this year, even though we are a smaller team, we have great balance and even potential."



2000 MIAC Swimming and Diving Championships

Men's Final Team Scores

	Points
Gustavus	839
St. Olaf	786
St. John's	601.5
Carleton	410
St. Thomas	256.5
Macalester	252
St. Mary's	158
Hamline	31