

MIAC Tennis Athletes-of-the-Week - Feb. 9, 2016

Posted: Feb 09, 2016



MIAC Men's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week

**Jordon O'Kelly,
Carleton
Lake Forest, Ill. /
Lake Forest**

Both the Carleton men's tennis team and freshman Jordon O'Kelly (Lake Forest, Ill.) have enjoyed strong debuts. The Knights were victorious

in each of their first two 2016 matches, and O'Kelly opened his college career with wins in all three matches thus far - one singles win and two in doubles play - all in the top spot in the lineup. For his performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored O'Kelly Tuesday with the first MIAC Men's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week award of the 2016 season.

O'Kelly's season debut came in the Knights' No. 1 doubles spot, as his tandem scored an 8-2 victory to help Carleton start conference play off on the right foot with an 8-1 win over Saint Mary's. However, he was even more impressive in his second match, as the rookie won at both No. 1 singles and doubles to help the Knights take down regionally-ranked (No. 13) UW-La Crosse, 6-3. O'Kelly rallied from a one-set deficit to win his first singles match 57-, 6-4 10-6, and he added an 8-5 win at No. 1 doubles as well.

Thanks to the strong start, Carleton is undefeated thus far in the young season with a 2-0 overall record and a 1-0 start in conference play. The Knights and O'Kelly hope to add another MIAC victory Wednesday when they take on Hamline at Lifetime Fitness in Lakeville, Minn., at 6:30 p.m. The team will also host Grinnell in a nonconference match Saturday at 3 p.m. at the Owatonna (Minn.) Tennis Center.



MIAC Women's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week

**Danielle Vasiliev, Carleton
Lincolnshire, Ill. / Stevenson**

The Carleton women's tennis team and sophomore Danielle Vasiliev (Lincolnshire, Ill. / Stevenson) started the 2016 with an impressive opening statement. The Knights won each of their first three matches by a combined score of 25-2, including two wins over Division II foes, and Vasiliev went 2-0 at No. 1 singles and also won both of her doubles matches to contribute to the team success. For her performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Vasiliev Tuesday with the first MIAC Women's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week award of the 2016 season.

Carleton started its season with an 8-1 MIAC win over Saint Mary's, that saw Vasiliev contribute to a decisive 8-1 victory at No. 2 doubles in the conference opener. She impressed in her 2016 singles debut with a 6-3, 6-1, win at No. 1 singles to help the Knights beat Division II Winona State 8-1, and she won both her No. 1 singles match (6-3, 6-2) and No. 3 doubles match (8-3) as Carleton swept Division II St. Cloud State 9-0 on Feb. 5. She is one of just two MIAC players to start 2-0 at No. 1 singles, and is also off to a 2-0 doubles start.

Thanks to the strong start, the Knights are 3-0 overall, including two wins against Division II foes, and 1-0 in conference play atop the MIAC standings. Carleton and Vasiliev hope to keep the strong start going with a MIAC match coming up on Thursday against Hamline. The Knights will host the Pipers at Lifetime Fitness in Lakeville, Minn., at 6:30 p.m. After that, the team will take 10 days off before hosting St. Scholastica in Lakeville as well on Feb. 21.



MIAC Tennis Athletes-of-the-Week - Feb. 16, 2016

Posted: Feb 16, 2016



MIAC Men's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week

**Mohanad Alhouni,
Gustavus
Tripoli, Libya / West
Lutheran**

The Gustavus men's tennis team picked up right where it left off a season ago with three dominant wins to start 2016, including a pair of 9-0 victories last

week. Sophomore Mohanad Alhouni (Tripoli, Libya / West Lutheran) had a perfect week at both No. 1 singles and doubles with a combined 4-0 record at the top of the Gusties' lineup. For his performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Alhouni Tuesday with the MIAC Men's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Alhouni started the week by going 2-0 in the top spot of both the singles and doubles lineups in a 9-0 nonconference win against UW-Eau Claire. He helped Gustavus' top doubles tandem win 8-4, and he was a 6-4, 6-2, straight-sets winner at No. 1 singles as well. He was even better in his 2016 MIAC debut against Saint John's, as his 6-1, 6-1, singles win and 8-3 doubles victory paved the way for another 9-0 Gustavus sweep. Thus far, Alhouni is 4-0 overall in 2016.

The Gusties couldn't have gotten off to a much better start, as the team is already 3-0 with a trifecta of perfect 9-0 wins over the Johnnies, UWEC and Division II Augustana (S.D.). The team has an important day coming up Saturday as it will play a pair of MIAC matches almost simultaneously, as Gustavus hosts St. Thomas in a 10 a.m. match, and travels to Winona to face Saint Mary's at noon. The Gusties are seeking their 28th-straight MIAC title in 2016.



MIAC Women's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week

**Ally Baker, Gustavus
Rosemount, Minn. / Rosemount**

The Gustavus women's tennis team took a step up in competition last week, and Ally Baker (Rosemount, Minn.) certainly rose to the challenge. The Gustie sophomore was a perfect 2-0 in singles play in the top two spots in the lineup, and she helped win both her matches at No. 1 doubles as well while her team split a pair of extremely close matches against NCAA Division II foes. For her performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Davis Tuesday with the MIAC Women's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Baker brought her 'A' game Saturday in an impressive 6-3 Gustavus win over Southwest Minnesota State and a narrow 5-4 loss to Sioux Falls. Against SMSU, she was a 6-1, 6-3, winner at No. 1 singles, and helped the Gusties' top doubles team pull out an 8-5 victory. She added a 6-2, 6-2, win at No. 2 singles against Sioux Falls, and played a big role in an 8-2 win in the top doubles spot. Saturday was Baker's first action of the

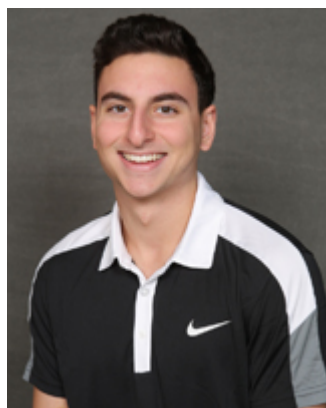
season, and she is off to a perfect 4-0 start, overall.

The Saturday split moved Gustavus' record to 1-2 thus far on the young season, with both losses coming to Division I and II opponents. Baker and company will be back in action against D-II competition on Sunday, with a pair of matches in Sioux Falls, S.D., where the Gusties will face both Augustana (S.D.) and Minnesota State-Moorhead. That will serve as the team's final tune-up for conference play, as the defending champion Gusties will open MIAC action on Feb. 27.



MIAC Tennis Athletes-of-the-Week - Feb. 23, 2016

Posted: Feb 23, 2016



MIAC Men's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week

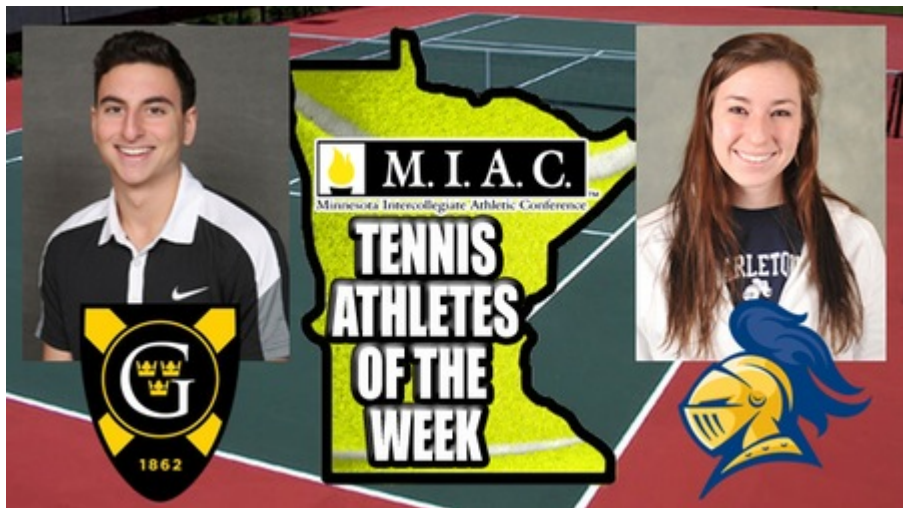
**Zach Ekstein,
Gustavus
Eagan, Minn. /
Eagan**

The Gustavus men's tennis team came up with another decisive win in MIAC play Saturday to continue its perfect start to the

2016 season. Sophomore Zach Ekstein (Eagan, Minn.) turned in a near-perfect performance with wins at No. 2 doubles and No. 3 singles to lead the Gusties to an 8-1 conference win over St. Thomas. For his performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Ekstein Tuesday with the MIAC Men's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Ekstein dropped just two games the entire match as he nearly pulled off a perfect sweep against his UST foes Saturday. He was a 6-1, 6-0, winner at No. 3 singles, and he helped Gustavus gain an 8-1 win at No. 2 doubles en route to the 8-1 victory. The two wins helped Ekstein remain unbeaten in 2016, as he improved to 8-0 overall - 4-0 in singles play and 4-0 in doubles play.

Thanks to the win, Gustavus has now won five-straight overall to open the 2016 campaign with a 5-0 record, and the team is 3-0 in conference play. The Gusties are one of just four teams yet to suffer a MIAC loss as the team seeks its 28th-straight conference title. Ekstein and company have another big day coming up with a trio of matches on Saturday. Gustavus will host Bethel (9:30 a.m.) and Concordia (2 p.m.) in conference play before squaring off against Morningside (7:30 p.m.) in a nonconference match.



MIAC Women's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week

**Kayla Becich, Carleton
Bradfordwoods, Pa. / North Allegheny**

The Carleton women's tennis team continued its perfect start to the 2016 season with a dominant 9-0 sweep of St. Scholastica Sunday in nonconference action last week. Knights senior Kayla Becich (Bradfordwoods, Pa. / North Allegheny) played a big role in Carleton's fifth-straight win to open the season with convincing victories at No. 2 singles and No. 1 doubles. For her performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Becich Tuesday with the MIAC Women's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Becich and doubles partner Joyce Yu got the nonconference showdown off to a good start with their 8-3 victory at No. 1 doubles. However, her most impressive victory of the day came in singles play, as she squared off with the Saints' Madeleine Scanlan in a matchup of undefeated players at the No. 2 spot.

Becich cruised to a 6-1, 6-1, victory to improve to 3-0 in singles play this season and hand Scanlan her first loss. Becich also improved her doubles record to 3-1 in 2016 while helping the Knights score the 9-0 victory.

Thanks to the out-of-conference win, Becich and Carleton are now 5-0 overall in 2016, and are currently one of four undefeated teams in conference play with a 2-0 MIAC record. Thus far, Carleton has won three 9-0 matches and two by 8-1 scores, with a pair of wins over Division II foes. This weekend, Becich and company have a huge MIAC match on the schedule as they host St. Catherine at Lifetime Fitness in Lakeville, Minn., Sunday at 2 p.m.



MIAC Tennis Athletes-of-the-Week - March 1, 2016

Posted: Mar 01, 2016



MIAC Men's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week

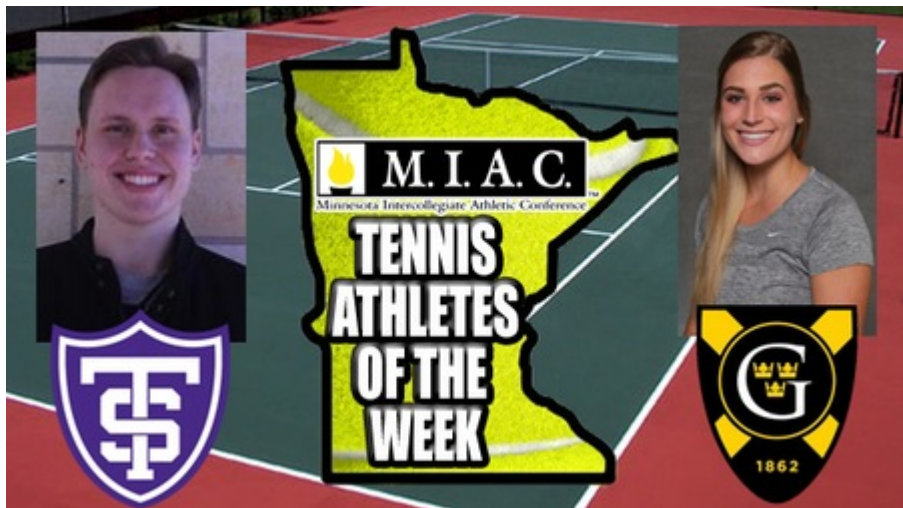
**Luke Elifson, St. Thomas
Minneapolis, Minn. / South**

The St. Thomas men's tennis team had an outstanding weekend, picking up its first two MIAC wins of the season on back-to-back days in impressive fashion. Junior Luke Elifson (Minneapolis, Minn. / South) was a big key

to the Tommies' success, as he went 2-0 at No. 1 singles and 2-0 at No. 1 doubles in victories over Saint John's and Concordia. For his performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Elifson Tuesday with the MIAC Men's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Elifson and UST started their busy weekend in style with a 6-3 MIAC win over Saint John's on Saturday. Elifson contribute with an 8-5 win at No. 1 doubles, and he breezed to a 6-2, 6-0, win in the Tommies' top singles spot. The team added an 8-1 conference win over Concordia, and Elifson helped the top doubles team to an 8-3 win, and he was again victorious at No. 1 singles, 6-4, 6-2. The perfect 4-0 weekend helped the junior improve to 2-2 in singles play and 3-1 in doubles play this spring, as he and doubles partner Scott Wall are now 3-0 against Division III foes.

Thanks to the two wins, St. Thomas is back to .500 overall (2-2) after dropping its first two matches of the spring to tough competition. The Tommies also improved to 2-1 in conference play and are currently in third place behind only unbeaten Gustavus and Carleton. Elifson and company hope to build on their MIAC winning streak this week when they travel to Winona, Minn., to face Saint Mary's in a MIAC match on Saturday at noon.



MIAC Women's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week

**Michaela Schulz, Gustavus
Elk River, Minn. / Elk River**

The Gustavus women's tennis team had a very busy - and very productive - day on Saturday, with three matches and three MIAC wins, all by 9-0 scores. Junior Michaela Schulz (Elk River, Minn.) played a huge role in two of the three victories, as she went 2-0 at No. 1 singles and 2-0 at No. 1 doubles for the Gusties in wins over Bethel and Hamline. For her performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Schulz Tuesday with the MIAC Women's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Schulz starred for Gustavus in both matches Saturday, as she only dropped eight games total in her four wins. She was a 6-1, 6-3, winner at No. 1 singles and she helped the top doubles team to an 8-2 victory in Saturday's 9-0 win against the Royals. Later that day, she cruised to a 6-1, 6-0, win at No. 1 singles, and added an 8-1 No. 1 doubles win as well in a 9-0 victory over Hamline. Her team also scored a 9-0 victory on Concordia on Saturday as well for a 27-0 sweep of the three MIAC foes. This season, Schulz is now 2-1 in both singles and doubles play.

Thanks to the three wins, Gustavus improved to 4-2 overall and got off to a perfect 3-0 start in conference play. The defending champion Gusties are tied with Carleton (3-0) atop the MIAC standings and have a slight edge on St. Olaf (2-0) and St. Thomas (1-0) in the wins column. Gustavus has another Saturday trifecta on the schedule this weekend, as the team will host Morningside and UM-Duluth at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., respectively, and will also send a team to face Drake at 1 p.m.



MIAC Tennis Athletes-of-the-Week - March 8, 2016

Posted: Mar 08, 2016



MIAC Men's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week

**Andres Saenz,
Gustavus
Cancun, Mexico /
Gonzalo Guerrero**

The 19th-ranked Gustavus men's tennis team had a big weekend against nationally-ranked teams, and Andres Saenz (Cancun, Mexico

/ Gonzalo Guerrero) certainly rose to the occasion. The Gustie senior went a combined 4-0 over the weekend - 2-0 at No. 2 singles and 2-0 at No. 1 doubles - as his team split with No. 16 UW-Whitewater and No. 34 DePauw. For his performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Saenz Tuesday with the MIAC Men's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Saturday, Saenz nearly led his team to a win over No. 16-ranked UW-Whitewater, as he accounted for half the team's wins in a narrow 5-4 loss. The senior battled back for a remarkable 3-6, 6-2, 6-3, win at No. 2 singles and helped the top doubles team defeat the nation's No. 7-ranked tandem 8-4. A day later, he led Gustavus to a 7-2 win over No. 34-ranked DePauw with a straight-sets (6-2, 6-3) win at No. 2 singles and an 8-2 victory at No. 2 doubles. Saenz is now 8-0 in singles play and 7-1 in doubles play this season, and he's currently the No. 14-ranked singles player and a member of the No. 4-ranked doubles team in the ITA Central Region.

Thanks to the split, the Gusties are now 11-1 overall and 5-0 to share first place in the MIAC standings with Carleton (7-2, 3-0 MIAC), and the team is ranked fifth in the region and 19th in the nation by the ITA. Saenz and company will head to California this weekend to compete in the Stag-Hen Invitational at Pomona-Pitzer College in Pomona, Calif. Gustavus opens with the host school Friday at 12 p.m. central time, and will play again Friday at 2:30 p.m. and Saturday at 10 a.m. with opponents to be determined based on tournament outcomes.



MIAC Women's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week

**Katie Aney, Gustavus
Rochester, Minn. / Century**

The Gustavus women's tennis team had three matches and a split squad on Saturday, which saw Katie Aney ascend to the team's No. 1 singles and doubles positions. The sophomore responded beautifully to the promotion, as she went 3-1 combined to lead the Gusties to a pair of wins over NAIA Morningside and Division II UM-Duluth. For her performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Aney Tuesday with the MIAC Women's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Aney started her busy Saturday with a 6-3, 6-4, win at No. 1 singles to help her team avenge a 2015 loss to Morningside with a 6-3 victory. Her doubles team suffered an 8-4 setback in Gustavus' top spot, but that would be her only setback of the day. Later on Saturday, Aney rallied from a one-set deficit to score a thrilling 3-6, 6-4, 10-5, singles win in the No. 1 spot against D-II UMD, and she also helped the Gusties get an 8-2 win at No. 1 doubles en route to an 8-1 victory that also avenged a 2015 loss to the Bulldogs. Aney, who normally plays No. 5 singles and No. 2 doubles, improved to 4-2 in singles play and 3-2 in doubles play this season.

In addition to those two wins, the rest of the Gusties visited Division I Drake and fell 4-0 Saturday, which moved the team's record to 6-3 overall. Gustavus remains tied atop the MIAC standings with a perfect 3-0 record this season, and the team is tied for the No. 10 ranking in the ITA Central Region. This weekend, the team will head to San Antonio, Texas, where it will play four matches in three days. Saturday the Gusties face Mary Hardin-Baylor (10 a.m.), Sunday they take on Dallas Baptist (11 a.m.) and Texas Lutheran 92 p.m.) and Monday they'll face Trinity (10 a.m.).



MIAC Tennis Athletes-of-the-Week - March 15, 2016

Posted: Mar 15, 2016



MIAC Men's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week

**Mohanad Alhouni,
Gustavus
Tripoli, Libya / West
Lutheran**

The Gustavus men's tennis team embarked on a trip to California for a trio of tough matches, and Mohanad Alhouni (Tripoli, Libya / West Lutheran)

continued his remarkable sophomore season with three impressive singles wins. Alhouni went 3-0 at No. 1

singles against opponents that all ranked in the top 26 nationally. For his performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Alhouni Tuesday with his second MIAC Men's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week award of the 2016 season.

Alhouni certainly validated his No. 4 national singles ranking and top spot in the Central region rankings with his three impressive wins. He battled back for a 4-6, 6-4, 7-5, winner over No. 22-ranked Jake Yasgoor of Pomona. He scored a 6-4, 6-2, straight-sets win over No. 26-ranked CJ Krimbill of Case Western and closed the week with a 6-2, 4-6, 6-4, win over No. 21-ranked Daniel Budd of Texas-Tyler. Alhouni also went 1-2 at No. 1 doubles as No. 19-ranked Gustavus dropped a 7-2 match to No. 11 Pomona and a 6-3 decision to No. 6-ranked Case Western before defeating No. 26-ranked Texas-Tyler.

Thanks to his three wins, Alhouni is now 16-1 in singles play in 2016, and he has a 12-4 doubles record as well. Gustavus is now 11-3 overall and remains undefeated in conference play atop the MIAC standings at 5-0. The Gusties hope to get back in the win column this weekend with a nonconference match against Division II in-state foe St. Cloud State on Saturday in St. Cloud, Minn.



MIAC Women's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week

**Lizzy Stanczyk, Gustavus
Plymouth, Wis. / Plymouth**

The Gustavus women's tennis team had a successful road trip down to Texas, with a 3-1 record against good competition. Senior Lizzy Stanczyk (Plymouth, Wis.) led the way on the team's sojourn to the south with a perfect 4-0 record at No. 1 doubles and a 2-1 mark at the No. 2 singles spot. For her performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Stanczyk Tuesday with the MIAC Women's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Stanczyk started her big weekend Friday with No. 1 doubles (8-2) and No. 2 singles (6-3, 6-2) wins to help the Gusties sweep Mary Hardin-Baylor 9-0. Saturday she was an 8-3 winner at No. 1 doubles in an 8-1 win over Texas Lutheran, and her No. 1 doubles (8-5) and No. 2 singles (6-4, 6-3) helped Gustavus upset No. 37-ranked East Texas Baptist 7-2. Sunday, her 8-5 No. 1 doubles win was the lone point in an 8-1 loss to 24th-ranked Trinity. The four doubles wins helped Stanczyk improve her 2016 record to 6-2, and she is now 4-3 in singles play this season.

Thanks to the 3-1 trip to Texas, Gustavus improved to 9-4 overall and remains one of the MIAC's four unbeaten teams in conference play with a 3-0 league record. The Gusties - ranked 10th in the Central Region - will step up a level Saturday to face NCAA Division II Minnesota State-Mankato in a home nonconference match in St. Peter, Minn.

MIAC Tennis Athletes-of-the-Week - March 22, 2016

Posted: Mar 22, 2016



MIAC Men's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week

Matt Schull, Bethel Eagan, Minn. / Henry Sibley

The Bethel men's tennis team had quite the spring break, going 7-0 to build up an impressive winning streak over a five-day stretch in Florida. Matt Schull (Eagan, Minn. / Henry Sibley) was a huge

reason for the Royals' success on the trip. Despite battling an illness all week, the junior went 9-0 overall - 3-0 at No. 1 singles and 8-0 at No. 1 doubles. For his performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Schull Tuesday with the MIAC Men's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Schull scored his singles wins against Franklin Pierce (7-6, 6-1), UW-La Crosse (4-6, 6-4, 13-11) and Calvin (6-0, 6-3), highlighted by his come-from-behind victory against the No. 1 singles player from UWLC, the region's 13th-ranked team. His No. 1 doubles victories came against St. Ambrose (8-3), Franklin Pierce (8-5), Illinois Wesleyan (8-3), and he and Luke Palmquist pulled off a pair of clutch 9-8 wins over UW-La Crosse and Calvin to close the week. Thanks to his perfect spring break, Schull improved to 10-2 at No. 1 singles this season, and he is now 11-3 at No. 1 doubles.

Thanks to the perfect performance in Orlando, Bethel has now won eight-straight matches and improved its overall record to 14-3. The Royals are currently 1-2 in conference play. The team will take the rest of March off before returning to conference play with a match at Saint Mary's on April 2 at 2 p.m., and the team's next home match will come when Saint John's visits on April 9.



MIAC Women's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week

Sydney Parkinson, Bethel Lakeville, Minn. / North

The Bethel women's tennis team definitely enjoyed their spring break trip to Florida, as the team with 5-0 last week and 6-0 overall. First-year phenom Sydney Parkinson (Lakeville, Minn. / North) continued her breakout season with a 7-1 overall record last week - 3-1 at No. 1 singles and 4-0 at No. 1 doubles - to lead the team to its five wins from the top spots in the lineup. For her performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Parkinson Tuesday with the MIAC Women's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Parkinson opened the week with a 6-0, 6-2, win at No. 1 singles and an 8-2 doubles victory in an 8-1 win over St. Ambrose. She didn't drop a game in her 6-0, 6-0, singles win and added an 8-3 doubles victory in a 9-0 win over Illinois Wesleyan. She added an 8-1 doubles win in the team's 9-0 win over Goucher. Her only loss came in a dramatic 7-6, 5-7, 8-10, No. 1 singles loss in the team's 7-2 win over Dubuque, and she was a 6-3, 6-1, singles winner and an 8-2 doubles winner in an 8-1 victory over Calvin. Parkinson's record is now 10-3 in singles play and 11-2 in doubles play during her first collegiate season.

Thanks to the perfect performance in Orlando, Bethel has now won seven-straight matches and improved its overall record to 13-2. The Royals are currently 1-2 in conference play and a perfect 12-0 against nonconference opponents. The team will take the rest of March off before returning to conference play with a match at Saint Mary's on April 2 at 11 a.m., and the team's next home match will come when St. Thomas visits on April 9.

MIAC Tennis Athletes-of-the-Week - April 5, 2016

Posted: Apr 05, 2016



MIAC Men's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week

**Mohanad Alhouni,
Gustavus
Tripoli, Libya / West
Lutheran**

The Gustavus men's tennis team traveled to San Antonio, Texas, to take on some of the nation's top teams, and the Gusties went a respectable 3-3 against

their top-notch foes. Sophomore Mohanad Alhouni

squared off against the opponents' top players and more

than held his own, with a 2-2 singles record at the No. 1 spot, and a 1-3 doubles record. For his performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Alhouni Tuesday with his third MIAC Men's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week award of the 2016 season.

Alhouni started his impressive week with a big win against a step up in competition. He defeated the top player from Saint Mary's-Texas, 6-4, 6-2, and lost a narrow 8-4 match at No. 1 doubles as Gustavus nearly upset the 27-ranked ranked team in Division II, 5-4. The team also dropped a narrow 5-4 decision to No. 12 Trinity, with Alhouni dropping his No. 1 singles match to the nation's seventh-ranked player, and his No. 1 doubles team losing an 8-6 heartbreaker. The team and Alhouni also suffered a 7-2 setback to No. 13 Washington (Mo.), but pulled off a 5-4 win over No. 29 Texas-Tyler, with Alhouni getting a 6-2, 7-5, win at No. 1 singles against a nationally-ranked foe, and his No. 2 doubles team was an 8-4 winner.

This season, Alhouni has an 11-4 singles record and an 8-6 doubles mark. The Gustavus sophomore is ranked No. 4 nationally in singles play and No. 11 in doubles play, and he's ranked No. 3 in singles and No. 4 in doubles in the Central Region. The Gusties are ranked No. 19 in the nation and No.5 in the Central Region. Gustavus is now 16-6 overall and 5-0 in conference play, and they have a trio of MIAC matches on this week's schedule. Friday the Gusties are at St. Olaf (4 p.m.) and Saturday's they'll travel to both Hamline (10:30 a.m.) and Macalester (4:30 p.m.).



MIAC Women's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week

**Michaela Schulz, Gustavus
Elk River, Minn. / Elk River**

The Gustavus women's tennis team split four very difficult matches against tremendous competition over the weekend at the Midwest Invite in Madison, Wis. Just like her team, junior standout Michaela Schulz (Elk River, Minn.) also split against her top-notch foes, going 2-2 at No. 1 singles and also 2-2 at No. 1 doubles in the four matches. For her performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Schulz Tuesday with her second MIAC Women's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week award of the 2016 season.

Schulz started her busy weekend with a 6-4, 7-5, No. 1 singles win and an 8-4 No. 1 doubles win to help her team beat Augustana (Ill.), which is ranked No. 13 in the Central Region, 7-2. She also closed the weekend on a high note with a 6-0, 6-2, No. 1 singles win and an 8-4 No. 1 doubles win to help Gustavus beat the region's 16th-ranked team, Carthage, 5-1. In between, Gustavus lost to No. 9 Washington (Mo.) 7-2 and to No. 23

Denison 5-2, with Schulz coming up just short against two of the region's top six singles players and two of the top-seven ranked doubles teams in the region.

This season, Schulz is 6-7 in singles play and 9-4 in doubles matches, and she's ranked No. 36 in the nation and No. 11 in the Central Region in singles. Gustavus is ranked 39th nationally and No. 10 in the Central Region, with a 12-6 overall record and a perfect 3-0 mark in MIAC play. The Gusties will hit the road for another busy weekend, with MIAC matches at Macalester (11 a.m.) and St. Catherine (4 p.m.) Saturday, and at Saint Mary's Sunday (12:30 p.m.).



MIAC Tennis Athletes-of-the-Week - April 12, 2016

Posted: Apr 12, 2016



MIAC Men's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week

**Josh Doyle, Macalester
Cologne, Germany /
Friedrich Wilhelm
Gymnasium**

Macalester men's tennis opened MIAC play with three tough matches last week, and Josh Doyle (Cologne, Germany / Friedrich Wilhelm Gymnasium) was more than ready. The standout

sophomore won all three of his No. 1 singles matches and all three of his No. 1 doubles matches for a perfect

6-0 week, including an upset of the nation's No. 4 singles player. For his performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Doyle Tuesday with the MIAC Men's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Doyle's big week began with a 6-2, 6-2, No. 1 singles win and an 8-2 No. 1 doubles victory to lead his team to a 7-2 conference win over St. Paul rival Hamline on Wednesday. Saturday, the Scots fell to No. 19-ranked Gustavus, with Doyle delivering both of his team's points. He took down the Gustie's top singles player - fourth-ranked Mohanad Alhouni - 6-2, 6-2, and also helped score an 8-6 win at No. 1 doubles. He delivered both points for Macalester again Sunday in a 7-2 loss to Saint John's, with a 2-6, 6-4, 10-4, comeback win at No. 1 singles and an 8-5 No. 1 doubles victory.

This season, Doyle is now 8-5 in singles matches and 10-5 in doubles play, with a perfect combined 6-0 start in MIAC play. Following last week's action, Macalester is now 6-6 overall and off to a 1-2 start in the conference. The team will continue its run of five-straight home MIAC matches this week when the team hosts Bethel Wednesday at 5 p.m., and Saturday Carleton comes to town for a 2 p.m. MIAC match.



MIAC Women's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week

**Bridget Noack, St. Thomas
Hartland, Wis. / Brookfield East**

Though the St. Thomas women's tennis team was shorthanded for one of its biggest tests to date, Bridget Noack (Hartland, Wis. / Brookfield East) came through with a hard-fought win to remain unbeaten in MIAC play. The senior led the way with clutch wins at both No. 1 singles and doubles to improve to 24-3 combined this season. For her performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Noack Tuesday with the MIAC Women's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Noack and UST entered Saturday's match with Bethel with a 12-1 overall mark and a perfect 6-0 MIAC record, but had to visit the Royals and their 14-2 overall record. Noack helped set the tone at No. 1 doubles with an 8-4 win, and then she persevered in a marathon second set to also win her match at No. 1 singles. She took the first set 6-2, then won the tiebreaker 11-9 to pull out a 7-6 win in the second set to help UST roll to an 8-1 victory. Noack improved to 12-2 in singles play and 12-1 in doubles play this season.

Thanks to the big win, St. Thomas improved to 13-1 overall and remained unbeaten at 7-0 in conference play. The defending MIAC Playoff champs are one of four undefeated teams still fighting for the conference title, but Noack and company have a two-game lead in the win column over the trio of 5-0 teams, which all happen to be the final three teams left on St. Thomas' schedule. UST will play at Gustavus on April 17, at Carleton on April 22, and will host St. Olaf on April 23 to provide plenty of high drama over the season's final weeks.



MIAC Tennis Athletes-of-the-Week - April 19, 2016

Posted: Apr 19, 2016



MIAC Men's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week

**Kevin Mei, Carleton
Ann Arbor, Mich. /
Huron**

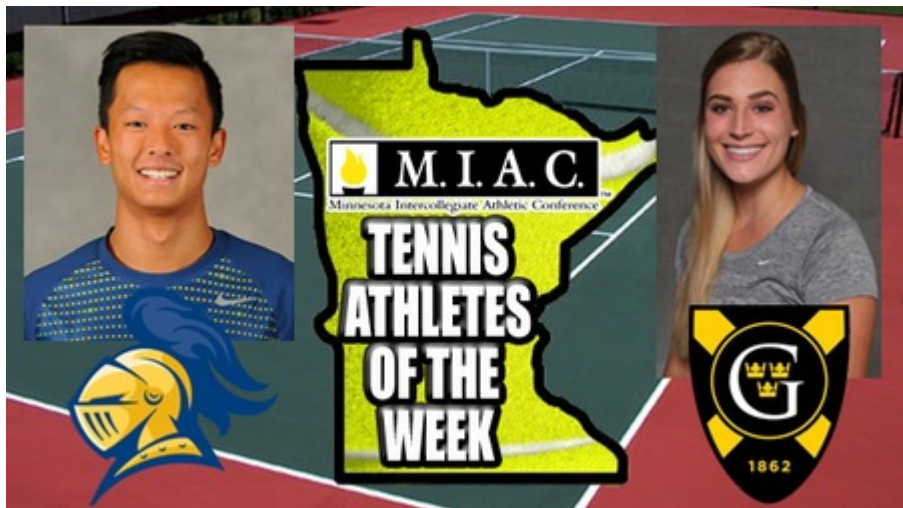
Carleton punched its ticket to the 2016 MIAC Men's Tennis Playoffs with a pair of wins last week to stay unbeaten in conference play. Super sophomore Kevin Mei (Ann Arbor,

Mich. / Huron) played a big part in the Knights' success last week, as he cruised to a pair of straight-sets wins at

No. 1 singles, and added a victory at No. 2 doubles for a perfect 3-0 week combined. For his performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Mei Tuesday with the MIAC Men's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Mei and the Knights improved to 5-0 in conference play Wednesday with a 7-2 victory over cross-town rival St. Olaf. The sophomore dropped just three games in his No. 1 singles victory, as he sailed to a 6-1, 6-2, victory. He was just as good in Saturday's 7-2 win over Macalester, with both his No. 1 singles and doubles wins coming over reigning MIAC Men's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week, Joshua Doyle. Mei was a 6-1, 6-3, winner over Doyle and No. 1 singles, and he teamed with Erik Johnson to beat Doyle and Brian Utz 8-4 at No. 1 doubles. Mei has now won six-straight singles matches and improved to 11-6 overall, and he's now 3-5 in doubles matches.

Thanks to the wins, Carleton is 14-6 overall and 6-0 in the MIAC. At worst, Carleton would tie for fourth place in the MIAC standings and holds tiebreakers over the Oles & Scots to lock up the Knights' spot in the MIAC's five-team postseason tournament. Carleton has just one match on its schedule this week, but it's a big one. The Knights face Gustavus (21-7, 8-0) in a matchup of the MIAC's two unbeaten teams Saturday in St. Peter, Minn., at 2 p.m., with the match likely to determine the conference champ.



MIAC Women's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week

**Michaela Schulz, Gustavus
Elk River, Minn. / Elk River**

The Gustavus women's tennis team faced its toughest stretch yet last week, with matches against two teams that had only one MIAC loss, combined. However, the Gusties and junior star Michaela Schulz (Elk River, Minn.) rose to the challenge, scoring a pair of impressive 8-1 wins to lock up a MIAC Playoff bid with Schulz going 4-0 combined at No. 1 singles and No. 1 doubles. For her performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Schulz Tuesday with her third MIAC Women's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week award of the 2016 season.

Schulz won a pair of dramatic matches to help her squad take down St. Olaf 8-1 Saturday. She came up with a clutch 6-3, 4-6, 10-7, win at No. 1 singles and an 8-5 victory at No. 1 doubles. Then, a day later, she was a 7-5, 6-0, winner at No. 1 singles and an 8-6 winner at No. 1 doubles as Gustavus scored an 8-1 win over defending MIAC Playoff champ St. Thomas in a battle of teams that were unbeaten in MIAC play. Schulz has now won both her singles and doubles matches in five-straight matches to improve to 10-7 in singles play and 13-4 in doubles matches.

Thanks to the two wins, Gustavus improved to 16-6 overall and remained unbeaten in conference play at 7-0. The Gusties punched their ticket to the six-team MIAC Playoffs, and are tied for first place with Carleton (12-3, 7-0 MIAC). This week, Schulz and company hope to build on their 19-match conference regular season winning streak with a trip to Saint Benedict for a MIAC match Saturday at 1 p.m.



MIAC Tennis Athletes-of-the-Week - April 26, 2016

Posted: Apr 26, 2016



MIAC Men's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week

**Mohanad Alhouni,
Gustavus
Tripoli, Libya / West
Lutheran**

The biggest match of the MIAC men's tennis regular season happened Saturday, when the league's two undefeated teams squared off.

Gustavus and star sophomore Mohanad Alhouni (Tripoli, Libya / West Lutheran) emerged with an 8-1 win over Carleton to claim the conference title and continue a remarkable run of MIAC success, with Alhouni leading the way with wins at both No. 1 singles and No. 1 doubles. For his performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Alhouni Tuesday with his fourth MIAC Men's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week award of the 2016 season.

The Gusties were 8-0 and the Knights had a 6-0 record entering Saturday's huge match, but Alhouni and company asserted themselves in a convincing win to claim another conference championship. At No. 1 singles, the standout sophomore was a 6-0, 6-3, winner over Carleton's Kevin Mei, and he teamed up for an 8-5 victory at No. 1 doubles, as he and Andres Saenz defeated Mei and Erik Johnson. The two wins helped Alhouni improve to 14-7 in singles play and 14-7 in doubles matches, with all his singles matches coming in the top spot in the lineup, and all but three doubles matches at No. 1 as well.

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The big win over Carleton completed Gustavus' regular season and amazing 28th-straight MIAC Championship. The win also moved the Gusties' MIAC regular-season winning streak to 260-consecutive victories. The team closed the regular season with a perfect 9-0 MIAC mark, and a 22-7 overall record. In addition to the MIAC title, Gustavus also locked up the No. 1 seed in the MIAC Tennis Playoffs and home-court advantage throughout the tournament. The Gusties will have a first-round bye, then will face the No. 4/5 winner on Friday, May 6, in St. Peter, Minn.



MIAC Women's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week

**Caitlin Bakke, St. Thomas
Bismarck, N.D. / St. Mary's Central**

The St. Thomas women's tennis team had pair of huge wins in a 30-hour span last week to wrap up a 9-1 conference season, and a top-two spot in the standings. Caitlin Bakke (Bismarck, N.D. / St. Mary's Central) came through with clutch three-set wins at No. 3 singles against both Carleton and St. Olaf, and was also 2-0 at No. 2 doubles to give her team a huge boost. For her performance, the MIAC sports information directors honored Bakke Tuesday with the MIAC Women's Tennis Athlete-of-the-Week award.

Bakke didn't show any lingering effects from a recent injury, as the sophomore returned to the UST lineup just in the nick of time. She helped one-loss St. Thomas take down previously unbeaten Carleton in a huge MIAC showdown 5-4 on Friday. Her clutch 7-6, 5-7, 10-8, No. 3 singles win and 8-4 No. 2 doubles victory were a big reason for the Tommies' narrow win. A day later, she was a 6-0, 0-6, 10-4, singles winner and helped earn a 9-7 doubles victory in an 8-1 win over St. Olaf. Bakke improved to 10-0 in singles play this season and 11-1 in doubles matches, and she is now 27-4 in singles and 24-4 in doubles over her first two collegiate seasons.

Thanks to the two big wins, St. Thomas improved to 15-2 overall and 9-1 in conference play. UST is currently a game behind Gustavus (17-6, 8-0 MIAC), so the Tommies will be rooting for Carleton and Macalester to help UST earn a share of the conference title. Bakke and company will have this week off to prepare for the defense of their MIAC Playoff title. St. Thomas will be one of the top three seeds in the tournament, which begins on Tuesday, May 3, and runs through Saturday, May 7.

