Casey Curson, St. Thomas

Week of: 2001-05-07

Pitcher of the Week

University of St. Thomas senior Casey Curson (RHP, Spring Park, Mound-Westonka HS) went 3-0 on the week -- all complete-game wins -- to finish 11-0 in 11 MIAC starts for the 2001 season. In a 12-3 six-inning win at Concordia, Curson allowed three runs, four hits, five walks and fanned seven. In an 8-0 five-inning win at Gustavus, she allowed no ruins, five hits and two walks with three strikeouts; In an 8-0, five-inning win vs. St. Kate's, she allowed no runs and one hit with no walks and three strikeouts. The three wins helped the Tommies tie for the MIAC championship at 20-2 and earn the school's fifth consecutive NCAA playoff berth with a 33-7 record. Curson improved to 16-3 on the season and 68-19 with a 1.16 ERA in 103 career games.

Fauna Smith, Carleton

Week of: 2001-04-30

Pitcher of the Week

Carleton College senior pitcher Fauna Smith (Willits, Calif. / Willits HS) posted four wins during the week, as the Knights snapped an eight-game losing streak by winning seven of eight contests, and all four in which Smith started. She tallied four complete games [28 innings] and allowed only one unearned run. Smith fanned 25, including a high of eight in a win over Bethel. Smith allowed only seven hits in three games. Weeks stats: 4-0, 0.00 ERA, 20 K's in 3 g, 10 bb, 7 hits.

Jill Hocking, Saint Mary's

Week of: 2001-04-23

Pitcher of the Week

Saint Mary's University senior pitcher Jill Hocking (Apple Valley, Minn./Apple Valley H.S.) started three of the Cardinals' four games last week, throwing 16.0 innings, while not allowing a run - including a complete-game one-hitter against Carleton (a 3-0 win) and nine innings of three-hit ball in Saint Mary's sweep of Gustavus - as SMU improved to 11-1 in the conference and 21-5 overall with a perfect 4-0 record last week. In her three appearances, Hocking walked three and struck out 16, while opponents managed a meager .080 batting average. The senior helped her own cause at the plate as well, collecting 5 hits in 12 at-bats (.417). She belted a pair of triples, scored twice and drove in a team-leading six runs.

Molly Biehn, Gustavus

Week of: 2001-04-17

Pitcher of the Week

Gustavus Adolphus first-year pitcher Molly Biehn (Mankato, Minn. / Loyola High School) compiled a record of 3-0 last week while allowing only two earned runs in 23.0 innings of work. Biehn was the winning pitcher in theGusties 2-1 win over St. Olaf as she allowed only four hits and one earned run while striking out five and walking two in nine innings of work. Two days later, shepicked up an 8-2 win over Concordia allowing one earned run and four hits with no strikeouts and one walk in six innings on the mound and then on Saturday, Biehn collected the first shutout of her collegiate career as she scattered four hits in eight innings while walking one and striking out five in the 1-0 Gustavus victory. Two ofher three wins last week were complete game extra inning affairs including the 2-1 nine inning win over St. Olaf and the 1-0 eight inning win over St. Ben's. Biehn hascompiled a record of 4-1 overall with an earned run average of 2.41 and she is 3-0 in the MIAC with an earned run average of 0.60. Gustavus has compiled arecord of 12-5 overall and is currently in a tie for first place in the MIAC with a record of 6-1. Stats for the week: 23 innings pitched, 12 hits, three runs, two earned runs, four walks, 10 strikeouts, no hit batsmen, no wild pitches, three complete games, one shutout.

Heather Martin, St. Thomas

Week of: 2001-05-07

Co-Players of the Week

--Saint Mary's University senior Jill Hocking (P/1B, Apple Valley, Minn./Apple Valley H.S.) hit a remarkable .667 (8-for-12) with three doubles and a home run, while also driving in seven runs and scoring four as the Cardinals locked up a share of their fourth MIAC title in the last five years with a 4-1 record last week. Hocking extended her hitting streak to six games by collecting at least one hit in each of SMU's five games - including 2-for-3 and 2-for-2 performances in the Cardinals' title-clinching sweep vs. Bethel on Saturday. Hocking helped herself on the mound, as well, boasting a 0.50 ERA in 14.0 innings. She did not walk a batter and struck out 10.

--University of St. Thomas junior Heather Martin (3B, Minneapolis/Blake HS) batted .588 (10-of-17) in six MIAC games, including four doubles, seven RBI and four runs, to help the Toms post a 5-1 record. Martin was 6-for-7 with three runs and three RBI in the sweep of Concordia; 3-for-6 with three RBI in a split with Gustavus; and 1-for-4 in a sweep with St. Catherine. Martin went into the weekend leading the MIAC in hitting at .490, and she's improved her season average to .402.

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Gina Rizzardi, Saint Mary's

Week of: 2001-04-30

Co-Players of the Week

--Saint Mary's University sophomore Gina Rizzardi (3B, Woodbury, Minn.) hit a team-leading .500 as the Cardinals ran their winning streak to 21 straight with a perfect 6-0 record last week. A sophomore third baseman, Rizzardi collected 9 hits in 18 at-bats, scored three times and drove in four runs as SMU beat Hamline (4-1, 10-0), St. Catherine (2-0, 8-0) and Concordia (8-0, 9-1).

--University of St. Thomas senior Avery Heidenreich (CF, Whitewater, Wis.) became just the second NCAA Division III player to homer twice in an inning during Saturday's 17-0, five-inning win over St. Ben's that completed a doubleheader sweep and ran UST's win streak to 15 games. Heidenrecih led off the bottom of the first inning with a homer, then hit a two-run homer to cap an eight-run first-inning. In the 1-0 win in game one, she led off the first with a single, stole second and third base, and scored the game's only run on a single by Sarah Grudnowski. In Thursday's 14-3, 4-3 sweep of Bethel, she was 2-for-6 with three RBI and three runs. In game two, she reached on a fielder's choice and stole a base to start a four-run sixth-inning rally that erased a 3-0 Bethel lead. On the 4-0 week, she was 5-for-11 (.450), with five RBI and six runs and was 4-for-4 in stolen bases. Heidenreich, who led off the season with a home run vs. St. Ben's in the March 9 UST Invite, broke the school record for season homers with five. In the Toms' 28-6 start, she's batting .455 with 45 hits, 34 stolen bases and 37 runs.

Avery Heidenreich, St. Thomas

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Emily Deuth, Hamline

Week of: 2001-04-23

Player of the Week

Hamline University sophomore center fielder Emily Deuth (Northfield, Minn.) had another explosive week of fielding, hitting and running bases in competitive conference play against Bethel, Macalester and Gustavus. As lead-off hitter for the lady Pipers, Deuth batted .545(12-22) as they finished the week with a 3-3 record. Deuth smacked a triple and double, was 5-for-5 in stolen bases, knocked in 7 RBI's and touched home 8 times as she led the youthful Pipers in the same great fashion as she has done for the past 2 seasons. On the season, the speedy Deuth is batting .416 and leads the Pipers in batting average, slugging percentage, RBI's, runs scored and steals.

Julie Langenfeld, Gustavus

Week of: 2001-04-17

Player of the Week

Gustavus Adolphus sophomore rigth fielder Julie Langenfeld (Rosemount, Minn.) batted .333 with six runs scored, five rbi's, three doubles and one triple as Gustavus compiled a record of 6-1 over the week including wins over previously unbeaten league rivals Concordia and St. Benedict. Langenfeld started the week going 1-for-3 in the Gusties 8-5 win over St. Olaf. Her one hit proved quite crucial as she drove in two runs to tie the game at 5-5 with a two-out double and then scored the winning run one batter later as Gustavus went on to claim an 8-5 win. In the second game against the Oles, Langenfeld went 2-for-4 with a double and a triple and scoring the team's first run as the Gusties claimed a 2-1 win in nine innings. In the Gusties 1-0 eight inning win over St. Ben's on Saturday, Langenfeld drove a one-out double into left field which scored Christina Diller with the game-winning run. Langenfeld leads the Gusties in hitting with a .458 batting average. Gustavus has compiled a record of 12-5 overall and is currently in a tie for first place in the MIAC with a record of 6-1. Stats for the week: 7-for-21 at the plate (.333), five runs batted in, six runs scored, three doubles, one triple, one game-winning rbi, 1-for-1 stolen bases, two walks, two strikeouts.