

Maria Bye, St. Thomas

Week of: 2007-04-30

Pitcher - University of St. Thomas junior right-handed pitcher Maria Bye (Maple Plain, Minn./Orono) was 2-0 on the week with no runs, one hit and one walk allowed with 14 strikeouts over eight innings. That helped her finish 13-0 in conference play and finish with a rare 0.00 ERA in 59.1 innings. In Wednesday's showdown with MIAC unbeaten Gustavus, she threw a five-inning one-hitter and fanned eight with one walk in an 8-0, five-inning win. Saturday at St. Catherine, she allowed one hit and no walks and struck out six of the 10 batters she faced. At the plate, she was 4-for-5 with three walks and a HBP and reached base in eight of nine plate appearances, including a two-run homer vs. Gustavus. Bye is batting .411 with 39 hits and 43 RBI in UST's 38-2 start. On the mound, she's 24-1 with an 0.68 ERA with 207 strikeouts and 39 walks in 133 innings.

Monica Eiden, Saint Benedict

Week of: 2007-04-23

Co-Pitcher - Gustavus Adolphus College senior pitcher Joyce DeWitz (Good Thunder, Minn./Maple River) went 7-0 and allowed just two runs in 39 innings during Gustavus' 11-0 week to keep the Gusties in the MIAC title race. She had complete-game 2-0 and 3-2 wins over third-place Saint Mary's and had 4-0 and 6-0 shutout wins over playoff contender Hamline. DeWitz had 47 strikeouts and allowed 22 hits and seven walks in 39 innings. DeWitz has 57 career wins and 483 strikeouts. The Gusties are 25-2 and have a showdown series Wednesday at No. 1-ranked St. Thomas.

Co-Pitcher - College of Saint Benedict senior pitcher Monica Eiden (Maple Grove, Minn./Totino-Grace) went 4-1 on the week with an 0.68 ERA, including a narrow 2-1 loss to No. 1-ranked St. Thomas, to help keep the Blazers in the MIAC playoff race. Eiden allowed three runs, 14 hits and 12 walks with 28 strikeouts in 31innings. She had a two-hit shutout of Augsburg (2-0 win) and a one-hit shutout of Concordia (1-0 win), both complete games, and lost 2-1 to the Tommies on a four-hitter, including a solo homer by All-American Carrie Embree with two out in the seventh. In two 1-0 wins vs. Concordia, she pitched 12 innings and allowed four hits, three walks and fanned 19. She also pitched a 1-2-3 eighth inning to get the 3-2 win over Augsburg and cap a sweep. The Blazers are 14-13 and have a one-half game lead over Hamline for the final playoff spot with seven games left.

Joyce DeWitz, Gustavus

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Olivia Abbott, Macalester

Week of: 2007-04-16

Pitcher - Macalester College first-year pitcher Olivia Abbott (Lakewood, Colo./Green Mountain) was 3-1 with a 1.68 ERA in four Macalester games last week and threw shutouts in her first two career MIAC starts. She struck out 16 and walked just one in 25 innings. Abbott started her week with a six-hit 1-0 win over Augsburg and in her next start beat Carleton 7-0 on a four-hitter. She gave up one run through five innings before St. Catherine opened things up in the sixth to win game one, but came back in the nightcap against the Wildcats to pitch the Scots to an 8-3 victory, giving up just one run while pitching the game's first five frames. Stats for the week: 4 games, 25 IP, 8 runs, 6 earned runs, 1.68 ERA, 24 hits, 16 K's, 1 BB, 18 assists - 0 errors.

Jill Reinert, Concordia

Week of: 2007-04-09

Pitcher - Concordia College sophomore pitcher Jill Reinert (Watertown, Minn./Watertown-Mayer) struck out a 20 batters in Concordia's 6-3, 12-inning win over Bethel on Friday at the Rosemount Dome. That set a school record for most strikeouts by a pitcher in a single game. After having almost a full month off since her last start, Reinert allowed only six hits in the first game that went well into extra innings. She allowed only two earned runs in picking up her team-leading third win of the year. She also started the second game, pitching 4.1 innings, allowing five earned runs and striking out three in the Cobbers' 8-3 loss. For the week she pitched 16.1 innings and struck out 23 batters. Stats for the week: 16.1 IP; 23 K's, 15 H, 7 ER, Record: 1-1; 3.00 ERA

Mari Jo Long, Carleton

Week of: 2007-04-02

Pitcher - Carleton College sophomore pitcher Mari Jo Long (Wilmette, Ill. / New Trier) scattered four hits over six innings, striking out nine with no walks in Carleton's 8-1 victory over Bethany Lutheran. She allowed but one earned run in notching her third victory of the season as the Knights opened their home slate with a sweep of the Vikings. For the season she's struck out 84 batters in 74 innings of work and walked only 17.

Maria Bye, St. Thomas

Week of: 2007-03-26

Pitcher - University of St. Thomas junior pitcher Maria Bye (Maple Plain, Minn./Orono) went 6-0, had a 1.28 ERA, had 52 strikeouts and 10 walks in 38 innings, beat two top-10 ranked D-III teams and led No. 1-ranked St. Thomas to a 9-0 mark last week (March 19-23) in the Sun West Tournament. She held No. 6 Chapman to one hit over three innings in an 8-0 win, and beat No. 9 UW-Eau Claire in eight innings, 3-2. She struck out 13 in a win over Babson. Bye improved her career record to 48-6. In nine games at the plate she had five home runs, 14 RBI, 11 runs, eight walks and nine hits for a .429 BA and a 1.24 slug percentage. She has hit safely in 15 of her last 17 games this season. The 16-2 Tommies open defense of their MIAC title Wednesday at Saint Mary's.

Jenny Giannini, Saint Mary's

Week of: 2007-04-30

Saint Mary's University junior second baseman **Jenny Giannini** (River Grove, Ill.) hit .714 (10-for-14) with three doubles, five runs scored and eight RBIs in helping the Cardinals to a 5-1 record last week. The junior infielder opened the week with a 2-for-2 effort in the second game vs. Augsburg on Sunday, then followed that up with a 4-for-5, two-double, four-RBI effort in the Cardinals' sweep of Macalester on Wednesday. Giannini then closed out her week with four hits in five at-bats with a double and two RBIs in SMU's sweep vs. Carleton, a sweep that clinched an MIAC Tournament berth, and the team's 14th straight 20-win season. Weekly stats: GP: 6 / BA: .714 / AB: 14 / R: 5 / H: 10 / 2B: 3 / RBIs: 8 /Slugging %: .929 / BB: 3

Julie Mahre, Gustavus

Week of: 2007-04-23

Player - Gustavus Adolphus College junior second baseman Julie Mahre (White Bear Lake, Minn.) hit .500 (16-32), scored 16 runs, and recorded seven RBI in 11 games, and helped the Gusties post an 11-0 mark on the week. Mahre, the lead-off hitter for the Gusties, scored at least one run in every game. She also hit three home runs and three doubles. With her three home runs, she moved into second place on the Gustavus career home run list with 15 and tied the school record for home runs in a season with eight. Mahre plays second base in the field and she recorded 18 putouts and 22 assists with one error in the 11 games for a fielding percentage of .975. Stats for the week: Average: .500, At-bats: 32, Hits: 16, Runs scored: 16, RBI: 7 Doubles: 3, Home Runs: 3, SB: 4/4, Putouts: 18, Assists: 22, Errors: 1.

Kelli Niess, Concordia

Week of: 2007-04-16

Player - Concordia College senior shortstop Kelli Niess (Rice, Minn. /Sauk Rapids-Rice) broke two career school records last week in helping Concordia win five of their six MIAC games. On Monday against St. Kate's, she set the program record for career steals and on Saturday against St. Olaf she became the school's all-time hit leader. In the six games last week she batted .476, stole six bases, scored five runs and drove in four. She also made several acrobatic plays in the field and posted a fielding percentage of .969 in handling 32 chances. Against St. Kate's, she stole three bases to break the school record for most stolen bases in a career. She went 3-for-9 and stole three bases in Concordia's split against the Wildcats. On Saturday in the team's sweep over St. Olaf, she went 5-for-8, scored two runs and drove in two. She also drove in the game-winning run in the bottom of the 10th inning in the second game. In Concordia's sweep over Augsburg on Sunday, she went 2-for-4 and made several outstanding plays in the field. Stats for the week: AB 21, H 10, R 5, RBI 4, 2B 1, BB 3, SB 6, PO 15, A 16, BA .476, FLD % .969.

Morgan Betker, St. Thomas

Week of: 2007-04-09

Player - University of St. Thomas sophomore infielder Morgan Betker (Bettendorf, Iowa/Pleasant Valley) hit .500 (9-for-18) with five RBI and four runs in UST's 6-0 week. She hit safely in all six games and had a solo home run and three doubles. In Monday's 3-2, eight-inning win over Hamline, she had a pair of RBI hits on the game, including an RBI double in the eighth inning that broke a 2-2 tie. Betker missed much of preseason and the Toms' Florida trip after playing with UST's hockey team this winter. The No. 1-ranked Tommies are 24-2 with 18 consecutive victories.

Rachael Click, Gustavus

Week of: 2007-04-02

Player - Gustavus Adolphus College sophomore shortstop Rachael Click (Rochester, Minn./Mayo) went 5-for-7 on the day last Wednesday (March 28) to lead the Gusties to a sweep over Bethel in their MIAC opener. Click went 1-for-3 with a double, a run scored and a run batted in as Gustavus beat the Royals 10-0 in game one. In an 11-3 win in the nightcap, Click went 4-for-4 with two runs and an RBI. She had a double and a triple. Gustavus is now 10-2 on the season and 2-0 in the MIAC.

Carrie Embree, St. Thomas

Week of: 2007-03-26

Player - University of St. Thomas senior pitcher/first baseman Carrie Embree (Waukeg, Iowa) ran her hitting streak to 13 games and led three Friday victories with a 7-for-10 day to cap an 11-1 week at the Sun West Tournament. In leading UST to a 9-0 record from March 19-23, Embree batted .633 (19-of-30) with 19 hits, 13 runs, eight RBI, three doubles and one homer. She also was 13-of-13 in stolen bases. Her two-out single in the top of the eighth vs. No. 9-ranked Eau Claire scored the eventual winning run, and she was part of a game-ending

triple play (4-3-5) as the first baseman in that victory. In pitching she also was 2-0 with no earned runs, nine Ks and one walk in 11 innings. Embree is batting .544 on the season with 31 hits in 18 games. She has 182 hits in 144 career games. The 16-2 Tommies open defense of their MIAC title Wednesday at Saint Mary's.

CarrieEmbree null, St. Thomas

Week of: 2007-03-19

Pitcher/Player - University of St. Thomas senior pitcher/first baseman Carrie Embree (Waukee, Iowa) batted .400 in three games (4-for-10, HR, double, 1 RBI) and pitched 4 1-3 innings with no earned runs to get the win in relief Sunday night as the No. 1-ranked Tommies rallied to edge Dana (Neb.) 5-4 and move to 2-1 on their spring trip. Dana was a 43-win NAIA team last season. The Tommies lost 2-1 to No. 13-ranked UW-Eau Claire, then trailed 3-0 in the third inning and were on the verge of being swept. Embree came on and struck out five with no walks. UST trailed 4-1 when Embree led off the sixth with a single and later scored. UST trailed 4-2 in the seventh but Embree had a bunt single and came around to score the winning run from first on a two-out walkoff double. Embree doubled and scored the only run in the 2-1 loss to Eau Claire. She also had no errors in 10 defensive chances. Embree improved her season average to .444, including six extra-base hits in nine games. In 131 career games, Embree is batting .463 with 159 hits, 109 runs, 75 RBI, 38 walks, 79 steals (90 tries), 18 doubles, five triples, and eight home runs. UST is 144-16 in her era.