

1997-98 MIAC Women's Basketball Athletes of the Week

2/8/97 - Liz Reed, Gustavus Adolphus (Jr., Post, Faribault, Minn./Faribault HS) -- Reed scored 18 points and grabbed seven rebounds as Gustavus defeated Bethel 75-59 in Arden Hills on Dec. 6. Reed, who made seven of her 12 field goal attempts in the game, scored 14 of her 18 points in the second half as the Gusties turned a one-point halftime lead into a 16-point victory. Reed has a 12.3 point, 7.3 rebound per-game average through three games this season.

12/15/97 - Kirsten Vipond, St. Thomas (Sr., Center, Barrett, Minn./West Central HS) -- Vipond, in two St. Thomas victories, combined to make 17 of 22 field goals and 11 of 14 free throws for 45 points. St. Thomas downed St. Mary's 95-57 on Dec. 10 and beat Hamline 87-38 on Dec. 13. In three MIAC games, Vipond has made 26 of 32 field goals (82 %) and is averaging 21 points per game in 23 minutes per game. Vipond has made 30 of 40 shots on the season (75 %) and was second in the NCAA Division III in shootingpercentage. Vipond, who has accumulated 1,253 career points and 534 rebounds through Dec. 13, has led St. Thomas to an 83-9 record in games she has started in her career.

1/6/98 - Laurie Peterson, Carleton (So., Center, Freeborn, Minn./United South Central HS) -- Peterson tied Carleton's school record for free throws when she completed all 12 of her attempts in a 79-72 overtime win over Bethel on Jan. 5. It was Carleton's first victory over Bethel since 1991. Peterson led Carleton with a season-high 24 points. On Jan. 3, Peterson scored 13 points and had six rebounds in a 70-56 loss at Macalester. She is averaging 14 points per game this season.

1/12/98 - Erin Collins, St. Olaf (Jr., Point Guard, Kasson, Minn./Kasson-Mantorville HS) -- Collins made all five of her three-point attempts to spark the Oles to an 84-75 win over Concordia on Jan. 7. She tied her school record for that category and also tied for the game-high with 19 points. Collins made 7-of-8 from the field and dished out seven assists. She did not have any opportunities at the free-throw line. The win over the Cobbers was the first since February 1985. On Jan. 10, Collins was one of six Oles to hit double figures in an 87-51 victory over Macalester. She also had five rebounds and four assists to add to her 10 points.

1/19/98 - Laura Wendorff, St. Benedict (So., Post, Fulda, Minn.) -- Wendorff scored 28 points and grabbed 18 rebounds in a 60-50 victory at St. Thomas on Jan. 17. She recorded 19 points and 12 rebounds in the first half. The win moved the Blazers into sole possession of first place in the MIAC and ended the 65-game St. Thomas winning streak in the MIAC and 41-game home winning streak. Earlier in the week, Wendorff tallied 24 points and 13 rebounds against Macalester and 10 points and seven rebounds in the win over Bethel. St. Benedict remains undefeated for the season at 13-0 overall and 10-0 in the MIAC.

1/26/98 - Molly Mark, St. Benedict (So., Point Guard, St. Cloud, Minn./Apollo HS) -- Mark scored 13 points while dishing out five assists and getting six rebounds in the Blazers' 60-53 win at Concordia on Jan. 24. She made all four of her free throws and connected on a three-pointer that gave the Blazers breathing room down the stretch in the road win. On Jan. 21, she contributed to the team's undefeated record by tallying 12 points, two rebounds and six assists in an 88-71 win over Gustavus. St. Benedict remains undefeated for the season at 15-0 overall and 12-0 in the MIAC.

2/2/98 - Stefanie Lodermeier, Augsburg (Sr., Forward, Goodhue, Minn.) -- Lodermeier scored 29 points and had 27 rebounds in a close loss and close win for the Auggies. In a 54-53 loss at Macalester on Jan. 28, Lodermeier scored 12 points and pulled down 15 rebounds. In a 69-67 win at Bethel on Jan. 31, Lodermeier scored 17 points and had 12 rebounds, while going 6-for-7 at the free-throw line. Lodermeier is Augsburg's all-time leading scorer and rebounder, having broken both career records earlier this season.

2/9/98 - Kirsten Vipond, St. Thomas (Sr., Center, Barrett, Minn./West Central HS) -- Vipond set an MIAC record Feb. 4 in a 36-point win at Augsburg with 14-of-15 shooting and a career-high 33 points. She added five-of-six free throws and seven rebounds. In the Toms' 81-point win at St. Catherine on Feb. 7, Vipond played 20 minutes and had 16 points, five rebounds on five-of-seven field goal shooting and six-of-seven free-throw shooting. On the week, Vipond combined to make 18-of-21 shots to raise her NCAA Division III-leading accuracy to .721. The NCAA Division III season record is .699. St. Thomas is 18-1 overall. In Vipond's three years as a starter, St. Thomas has gone 58-1 against MIAC teams; the Tom's overall record with Vipond on the roster is 97-10. This year she is averaging 18 points per game and seven rebounds per game.

2/16/98 - Beth Johnson, Bethel (Sr., Wing, Lake Elmo, Minn.) -- Johnson averaged 24 points, 6.5 rebounds, and 3.5 assists in two games last week. In a 70-49 loss to St. Thomas on Feb. 11, Johnson recorded team-highs of 20 points and six rebounds. In a 82-76 loss to St. Mary's on Feb. 14, Johnson had game-highs of 28 points, seven rebounds, and five assists. Johnson has led the Royals in scoring in 14 of their 21 games. She averages 19.3 points per game (overall) and ranks first in the MIAC with a 19.8 average.

2/23/98 - Leah Sonstelie, Concordia (Sr., Post, Fosston, Minn.) -- Sonstelie sparked Concordia to a pair of road wins with 16-of-16 free-throw shooting while becoming the 15th Cobber to go over 1,000 points in a 66-63 win at Augsburg on Feb. 18. She scored 18 points at Augsburg while pulling down five rebounds and blocking four shots. In a come-from-behind, 64-61 victory at Bethel on Feb. 21, Sonstelie posted 20 points, seven rebounds and two blocks. She averages 13.3 points and 6.3 rebounds per game.

3/2/98 - Stephanie Wilson, Macalester (Sr., Guard, Wrenshall, Minn.) -- Wilson helped Macalester break a seven-game losing streak by leading the Scots past Carleton and St. Catherine in the final week of the season. Wilson shot 74 percent from the field (14-for-19) in the two games, scoring 32 points to go along with five rebounds. Wilson went 7-fof-10 from the field and had 14 points in a 52-49 win at Carleton on Feb. 25. In the 79-70 win at St. Catherine on Feb. 28, Wilson went 7-for-9 and finished with 18 points.