



2002 MIAC WOMEN'S GOLF PREVIEW

The 2002 MIAC Women's Golf season is underway. The University of St. Thomas, 2001 defending MIAC Champion, will try and retain their title despite graduating four of their top six golfers from last season. Watch for Concordia College to try and continue their dominance at the conference tournament. Concordia has won nine of the eleven team championships since the beginning of the MIAC Women's Golf Championship in 1991, including six straight from 1995 to 2000. Keep an eye on Gustavus, second place finisher in 2001, to challenge for the top spot in the conference this fall.



The 2002 MIAC Women's Golf Championship will take place October 5 and 6 at the Fairways Golf Course in St. Cloud, Minn.

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Augsburg College

Head Coach:

Kristi Dostal (1st season)

2001 Record:

9th at MIAC Championship

Key Returners:

Jackie Jacobs (Jr., Canton, S.D.), leading scorer in 2001-02 (106.50 stroke average).
Janell Johnson (Sr., St. Paul, Minn./Highland Park HS), 121.00 average in 2001-02, including 107.50 in spring; voted Most Improved Player by Minnesota Women's Collegiate Golf Association in 2002.

Season Preview:	For the Augsburg College women's golf team, growth has been a long-term process. The process continues in 2002-03, as the Auggies welcome a new coach into the fold, along with one of the largest team rosters in recent years. Kristi Dostal, assistant golf pro at Pheasant Acres Golf Club in Rogers, Minn., was hired in August to continue the rebuilding process started by former coach Sheryl Maize, who coached at Augsburg for two seasons before taking the head coaching position at the University of Memphis (Tenn.), an NCAA Division I program. "It's going to be a learning experience, for both the golfers and for me," said Dostal, who was an outstanding collegiate golfer at Mount Mercy (Iowa) College (1994-98). "We're a real young team, and all of us will learn and grow from the experience. Sheryl started this team on a very good track, and I'm looking to keep that going." Five Auggie golfers return and will be joined by three recruits, giving the Auggies a solid eight-golfer base to build from, though Dostal admitted that recruiting will be a main focus for the Auggies to build into the future. "Our biggest goal will be to build the numbers. We'll want to bring in five to 10 girls to build the program further. We need numbers," Dostal said. Last year, Augsburg finished ninth at the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference fall championship meet, a position Dostal wants the Auggies to improve on this season. Two of Augsburg's three top scorers return from last year. Jackie Jacobs (Jr., Canton, S.D.) and Janell Johnson (Sr., St. Paul, Minn./Highland Park HS) have shown tremendous improvement, and all have solid shots at cracking the 100 stroke-average barrier this year. Jacobs led the Auggies with a 106.50 stroke average last year, while Johnson carded an average of 121.00. Her 107.50 spring average helped earn her Most Improved Golfer honors from the Minnesota Women's Collegiate Golf Association this spring. Julie Dick (Sr., Minnetonka, Minn./Hopkins HS) also returns, and Laura Hoffman (Jr., Bloomington, Minn./Kennedy HS), a soccer and hockey player, will also return to the golf team for spring meets. Recruits are Brooke Hamann (Fr., Perham, Minn.), who earned conference co-MVP honors this spring in high school golf, and Micaela Pommerening (Fr., Hopkins, Minn./Blake HS), who transfers to the program from Gustavus. A complete Auggie golf preview can be found at: http://www.augsburg.edu/athletics/golf/0203wpreview.html
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Carleton College			
Head Coach:	Eric Sieger (2nd season)		
2001 Record:	8th at MIAC Championship		

Key Returners:	Katie Larson, Jr., Maplewood, Minn. (Mounds Park Acad.), led team in stroke average in '01-02, named team MVP. Laina Amerson, So., Stillwater, Minn., team's most improved player in '01-02, had 2nd-best stroke avg. on team. Top Newcomers: Kelly Lewis , Homewood-Flossmoor HS (Ill.), 2-time regional champion, Ranked 14th on Illinois Junior Golf Senior Girls Tour, three-time all-conference, Medalist eight times over past two years in high school/junior tournaments. Kate Waller, Oak Harbor HS (Wash.), Four-time all-conference and Class 4A State Tournament qualifier, finishing in top 30 each of last two years, played in team's top spot four consecutive years.
Season Preview:	The Knights figure to post their best ever in their fifth season as a varsity program. Newcomers Kelly Lewis and Kate Waller figure to hold down the top two spots in the line-up for second-year head coach Eric Sieger. "Both Kate and Kelly give us two players who are capable of finishing in the top 10 in every tournament we enter," Sieger said. "They give us a great combination at the top of the line-up that we've never had before." Last season's top two players, Katie Larson and Laina Amerson, will play the third and fourth positions. "Katie's worked very hard on her game this summer, and I know she'll shoot some solid scores for us," Sieger said. "Laina improved immensely last season, and hopefully she'll continue that trend this year." First-year player Lydia McClure and juniors Sunny Choh and Amber Holloway, along with sophomore Ebony Winston, will battle for the final two spots in the line-up. Carleton has eight players on the roster, the largest group in the program's history. "I think with Kelly and Kate and the improvements of Katie and Laina, we have a chance to make a significant jump this season," Sieger said. "It just depends on how hard we work throughout the season."

Concordia College		
Head Coach:	Duane Siverson (23rd season)	
2001 Record:	3rd at MIAC Championship	
Key Returners:	Katie Taylor (Jr., Owatonna, Minn.) - All-Conference and Academic All-Conference in 2001-02	
Season Preview:	The 2002 women's golf season will feature a strange twist for Concordia. For the first time in over a decade, the Cobbers will not be the overwhelming favorite to capture the MIAC team trophy. The 2001 season was a year of adjustment for coach Duane Siverson. Last year Concordia not only failed to win the conference title, for the first time in six years, but also failed to qualify for the national tournament for the first time in six years as well. Siverson will be hoping to field a strong team in 2002 that will be able to improve as the year goes on, and peak at the conference tournament in October. The Cobbers only have one returning all-conference golfer from 2001. Katie Taylor (Jr., Owatonna, Minn.) is the lone award winner from last year, as she finished tied for fourth in last year's championship meet. If Concordia is to contend for the title then they will have to receive inspiring performances from a pair of returners and one newcomer. Liz Horvick (So., Detroit lakes, Minn.) and Jill Larson (Jr., Rothsay, Minn.) are capable of shooting low numbers but time will tell if they can consistently "go low" in big events. The Cobbers will be bolstered by the addition of first year golfer Rachel Broten (Roseau, Minn.) who brings an impressive high school resume to the team. Follow Cobber Women's Golf all season long at: www.cord.edu/dept/sports/wg03	

Gustavus Adolphus College		
Head Coach:	Mike Boschee (8th season)	

2001 Record:	2nd at MIAC Championship
Key Returners:	Katie Aplin (So., St. Cloud, Minn.) 11th at MIAC Championships Kelsey Getz (So., Mendota Heights, Minn.) 21st at MIAC Championships Gina Sehnert (Sr., Plymouth, Minn.) 18th at MIAC Championships
Season Preview:	There will be a lot of new faces on the Gustavus roster this season due to significant losses due graduation. Coach Mike Boschee will be looking to replace All-American Alicia Golembeski (who finished fourth at the 2002 NCAA Championships), two-time All-Conference selection Kate Reiman and four-year letterwinner Sarah Wolter. Three members of last year's top six return including senior Gina Sehnert and sophomores Katie Aplin and Kelsey Getz. All three finished among the top 21 players at last year's MIAC Championship and will look to step up their play this year. Boschee will look to a talented group of first year players to fill in the other open positions. That group includes Kelly Groth (Bloomington, Minn.), Andrea Nelson (Alexandria, Minn.), Alana Reetz (Milaca, Minn.) and Erin Schliep (Rochester, Minn.). Boschee feels that the team may struggle a bit early as the newcomers adjust to the college competition, but should improve with each meet. He expects that the Gusties will be among the top teams in the MIAC by the time the MIAC Championships roll around in early October.

Macalester College		
Head Coach:	Martha Nause (2nd season)	
2001 Record:	4th place at MIAC Championship	
Key Returners:	Kristine Schaaf (Sr., Manden, ND) Carolyn Kilberg (Sr., Arden Hills, MN)	
Season Preview:	The Scots placed fourth in the MIAC a year ago and are looking to crack the top three in 2002. Macalester gets the campaign underway Labor Day weekend at the St. Benedict Invitational and follows that up with tournament at Detroit Lakes, Waseca and Le Sueur before closing with the conference tourney in St. Cloud. The Scots graduated All-MIAC golfer Amanda Slaughter but Coach Nause has the services again of a pair of reliable, experienced seniors in Kristy Schaaf (Manden, SD) and Carolyn Kilberg (Arden Hills, MN / Mounds View).	

College of St. Benedict		
Head Coach:	Theresa Solarz (11th season)	
2001 Record:	5th at MIAC Championship	
Key Returners:	Katie Strei (Jr., Wayzata, MN) Top scorer on team with average of 87...2001 All-MIAC...Ranked 20th in DIII. Katie Schmucker (Jr., Cold Spring, MN) 88 Average...Has the ability to shoot low 80's. Teresa Werth (Jr., Glencoe, MN) Looking to break personal bests and shoot in low 80's. Sarah Keating (So., Rochester, MN) Dropped average into low 90's after difficult past season. Cherie Sanborn (Jr., Princeton, MN) Works hard, will contribute to the team's success.	
Season Preview:	CSB head golf coach Theresa Solarz is very excited about the work her returners have done in the off-season, and she is equally impressed with the high quality of first-year golfers that have come on board for the 2002 season. The Blazer's are expecting more competition for traveling spots than in the past five years. The team has a great attitude towards effort, while focusing on their individual games. CSB expects to pressure other teams, and look to finish higher in meets this year. The Blazer's concluded last season in fifth place in the MIAC and the team expects to improve upon this performance and move up in the conference championship. The Blazer's enter the fall campaign ranked 23rd among 135 NCAA Division III schools.	

Saint Mary's University		
Head Coach:	Dan Messmann (3rd season)	
2001 Record:	7th at MIAC Championship	
Key Returners:	Kris Klimmek (Sr., Jordan, Minn. / 91.5 stroke average Ellen Berndt (So., Rice Lake, Wis. / 91.5 stroke average, 11th at MIAC Championships)	
Season Preview:	The Saint Mary's University men's and women's golf teams both made a statement at the season-ending Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championships a year ago - on an individual basis. The Cardinal women got an 11th-place showing from Ellen Berndt, while the SMU men's Eric Thom also cracked the conference's top 15. Conference titles, however, aren't won with one good individual score. Unfortunately for the Cardinals, getting more than one good individual at a time was a bit of a rarity last year. But for men's coach Tom Farren and women's coach Dan Messmann, that was then, and this is now. The Cardinal men, led by Thom (78.1 stroke average), enter this season with much more depth, including several newcomers who Farren is hoping can step right in and contribute. The SMU women are also a deeper bunch this year. Led by Kris Klimmek, who averaged a team-low 91.5 strokes per round, coach Messmann is looking for his team to make a giant leap up the conference ladder. A complete SMU golf preview can be found at: sports.smumn.edu/golf/2002/newsletter/gpreview.html	

St. Olaf College		
Head Coach:	LeAnn Finger (4th season)	
2001 Record:	6th at MIAC Championship	
Key Returners:		

Season Preview:	The Fall 2002 golf season will continue the building and shaping of the team that began in the fall of 2001. The Ole women will build upon their strong team of veterans and look for the trio of senior Heather Mattson (Maple Grove, MN), junior Naomi Schwegler (Albany, MN) and junior Abby Sprenger (Kiester, MN) to lead the way this fall. With the loss of only one senior to graduation in the spring, the Oles look to junior Britta Anderson (Lindstrom, MN), and sophomores Liz Hunt (Moline, IL), Stacia Polzin (Bloomington, MN), and Johanna Savage (White Bear Lake, MN) to gain more playing time and step into the varsity level. The Oles Linksters also have some very promising new comers planning to join the team this fall. "Our returning letter-winners have played and practiced hard all summer" states Coach Le Ann Finger, "therefore, we are confident we can compete with the top schools in the conference. We've added more depth to our schedule this fall so we are in good shape going into the conference meet in October." The team goals this fall will include finishing competitive rounds with a team score in the 350 to 360 ranges. "This season I look for our golfers to gain more confidence and turn in more consistent scores" says Coach Finger. "The full swings are becoming fine tuned so the short game will be our primary focus during practice. We have a lot of talent and need to work on positive mental imaging and concentration during our competitive rounds."
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University of St. Thomas		
Head Coach:	Cathy Lombritto (7th season)	
2001 Record:	1st MIAC, 9th NCAA D-III	
Key Returners:	Stephanie Nelson, SO, Hutchinson (2001-02: 13th MIAC, 57th NCAA) Jennifer Greenfield, SO, Hopkins (11th MIAC) Lindsay Sand, JR, Bemidji (3rd MIAC) Cassidy Rogers, SO, Blunt, S.D.	
Season Preview:	The Tommies graduated four of their top six players who played a large role in the fall 2001 MIAC championship and the ninth-place NCAA Division III finish last May. Among the losses were three-time All-MIAC honoree Kris Paulson, Leah Wangerin and Katti Severson. With several new faces in the lineup, Coach Cathy Lombritto will try to stay in the top echelon of the MIAC with Concordia and Gustavus.	

2001 MIAC Women's Golf Championships ([complete standings and story](#))

October 6-7, 2001

Prestwick Golf Club, Woodbury

2001 Team Results		
1. St. Thomas	333-332--665	
2. Gustavus	341-326--667	
3. Concordia	341-337--678	
4. Macalester	363-358--721	
5. St. Benedict	362-361--723	
6. St. Olaf	378-352--730	
7. St. Mary's	374-371--745	
8. Carleton	433-421--854	
9. Augsburg	477-444--921	