

Allie Schwab, Gustavus

Stillwater, Minn. / Stillwater
Week of: 2011-03-07



Gustavus junior forward **Allie Schwab** (Stillwater, Minn./Stillwater) tallied two goals and three assists for five points to help the Gustie women's hockey team defeat Concordia 5-2 and Bethel 3-0 and claim their eighth consecutive MIAC Women's Hockey Playoff title last week. With the playoff title, Gustavus also received the MIAC's automatic bid to the NCAA Division III Playoffs, which begin this week. For her outstanding playoff performance, Schwab has been named the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week.

Schwab started the MIAC Playoffs with three assists in the top-seeded Gusties' 5-2 win over fifth-seeded Concordia in the semifinals, and then added two goals against third-seeded Bethel in the championship game. In the title game, Schwab scored the game-winner late in the second period, and the final goal into an empty net late in the third period to start the celebration in St. Peter. Schwab leads Gustavus in goals scored with 14 and ranks second on the team in scoring with 14 goals and 11 assists for 25 points.

The Gusties will now face the University of Wisconsin at River Falls in an NCAA Tournament First Round game on Friday, March 11 at 7:00 p.m. at the Hunt Arena in River Falls, Wis. ([more info](#)). Gustavus (21-3-3) will be making its eighth consecutive NCAA Tournament appearance. The Gusties claimed both the MIAC regular season and Playoff championships this year under the direction of conference Coach-of-the-Year Mike Carroll.

Katelyn Dold, Concordia

St. Cloud, Minn. / Tech
Week of: 2011-02-28



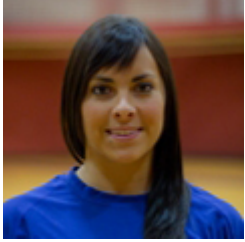
The Concordia women's hockey team needed a good performance against St. Thomas last weekend to earn a spot in the 2011 MIAC Women's Hockey Playoffs, and the Cobbers got it thanks to some help from star forward **Katelyn Dold** (St. Cloud, Minn./Tech). The junior wrapped up her MIAC scoring title with a pair of huge goals over the weekend that helped the Cobbers earn two ties, and the two points they needed to earn the fifth and final spot in the postseason. Dold's biggest goal came in the final minute of Saturday's game, and without it Concordia's season would be over. For her performance, Dold has been named the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week for the second time this season.

Friday, Dold cashed in on a Cobber power play, scoring to give her team a 1-0 lead 16:57 into the second period. The lead stood until the Tommies tied the game in the final four minutes, and neither team could score in the remainder of regulation or overtime. However, Dold's goal Saturday was even bigger. UST took a 2-1 lead into the final period, and it was still holding up with one minute to play. However, with 49 seconds left Dold scored an unassisted goal while Concordia had an extra attacker to salvage a tie and save the Cobbers' playoff hopes. Dold finished the regular season with 22 goals and 37 points – both tops in the conference – and her 15 assists tie her for the sixth-most in the league.

Tuesday, Concordia will make the long trip to Northfield, Minn., to take on fourth-seeded St. Olaf in the MAIC Women's Hockey Playoff first-round game. The puck drops at St. Olaf's arena at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday's winner earns a trip to St. Peter, Minn., Thursday to take on the top-seed and regular season conference champion, Gustavus. The semifinals start at 7 p.m. with the championship game scheduled for Saturday.

Michaela Michaelson, St. Catherine

Inver Grove Heights, Minn. / Simley
Week of: 2011-02-21



The St. Catherine women's hockey team has been at its best this season when facing the MIAC's top teams, thanks largely to the big-game performances of senior star **Michaela Michaelson** (Inver Grove Heights, Minn./Simley). Over the weekend, the Wildcats took three points from second-place St. Thomas a few weeks after also taking three points from first-place Gustavus. Michaelson's heroics helped SCU earn its win and tie against the Tommies with the game-winning goal in Friday's game and the game-tying goal in Saturday's overtime tie. Thanks to her clutch performance, Michaelson has been named the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week.

Friday, the Wildcats and Tommies were tied at 1-1 late in the third period. Michaelson scored an unassisted goal on the power play with less than nine minutes left to give SCU the 2-1 victory. The next day, Michaelson had a hand in both her team's goals. She assisted on the Wildcats' first goal, and sent the game to overtime with the game-tying score with just 40 seconds left in regulation. Michaelson is tied for seventh in the MIAC with 22 points this season. Her 13 goals are tied for fourth in the league, and she also has nine assists this season.

The Wildcats will wrap up the regular season this weekend with a home-and-home series against Saint Benedict. Friday SCU travels up to St. Joseph for a 7 p.m. start, and it hosts the Blazers Saturday with the puck set to drop at 3 p.m.

Amanda Cartony, Gustavus

Stillwater, Minn. / Stillwater
Week of: 2011-02-14



The Gustavus women's hockey team scored a crucial sweep of Hamline last weekend to inch closer to clinching a MIAC Playoff berth and winning another conference championship, and the Gusties certainly have freshman **Amanda Cartony** (Stillwater, Minn.) to thank. The first-year forward showed veteran poise over the weekend, scoring two clutch goals that helped Gustavus earn the sweep and the critical four points in the league standings. For her contributions, Cartony has been named the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week.

Friday, Cartony scored her third goal of the season 2:40 into the second period to give her team a 1-0 lead. Hamline would score later in the period and force overtime, but Gustavus pulled out the win with a game-winner in the extra period. A day later, Cartony struck again in an even bigger spot. With the two teams knotted at 1-1 in the third period, Cartony found the back of the net again to give the Gusties their second 2-1 win in as many days. Her game-winning goal came 6:01 into the third period and the resulting two points helped Gustavus climb above St. Thomas to the top of the MIAC standings. In her freshman campaign, Cartony has four goals and three assists for seven points, which is tied for the ninth-best total among league freshmen.

Gustavus is now in the driver's seat with two weeks and four games remaining in the regular season. This week, the Gusties (14-3-3 overall, 10-2-2 MIAC, 22 points) have a crucial home-and-home series against third-place Saint Mary's, and Gustavus will end with a two-game set with Augsburg the following weekend.

Cristina Masten, Bethel



The race atop the MIAC women's hockey standings has heated up as the season winds down, and over the weekend Bethel made a statement that it should be considered a contender in the season's final weeks. The Royals entered the weekend tied with St. Catherine, but handed the Wildcats a pair of 2-1 deficits to earn four points and move within two points of first place. Freshman forward **Cristina Masten** (Fergus Falls, Minn.) was Bethel's top playmaker over the weekend, factoring in all four of the Royals' goals and continuing to show a knack for making big plays when her team needs them the most. For her performance, Masten has been named the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week.

Friday, Masten scored two goals in a one-minute span of the first period – the second one coming shorthanded – to give her team all the offense it would need in a 2-1 win. Her first came 17:05 into the period, and her second – the game winner – was just 36 seconds later at 17:41 while the Royals were down a skater. She set up both goals in Saturday's even-more dramatic win. She assisted on the game-tying goal 7:11 into the third period, and she set up the game-winner five minutes into overtime to cap a spectacular four-point weekend for both Masten and her team. This season, the freshman phenom is tied for first in the MIAC with four game-winning goals. She's tied for second with four power-play goals and tied for seventh with seven power-play points. Overall, her 10 goals rank fifth in the MIAC and her 16 points are tied for eighth.

This weekend, the Royals can make up more ground in the standings as it faces a home-and-home with one of the teams it is chasing. Fourth-place Bethel (10-7-2, 7-3-2, 16 points) meets second-place St. Thomas (9-7-2, 8-3-1, 17 points) with just a point separating the two conference rivals. Friday the Tommies host a 7 p.m. game, and Saturday the Royals will host with the puck set to drop at 3 p.m.

Mel Gerten, St. Catherine



The MIAC women's hockey race tightened up over the weekend, and now five teams all sit within three points of first place. St. Catherine helped make the race interesting by taking three points from nationally-ranked conference leader Gustavus, and a big reason was the play of senior **Mel Gerten** (Inver Grove Heights, Minn./Simley) between the pipes. Gerten allowed just two goals to the Gusties over 125 minutes and helped the Wildcats score a win and a tie. For her performance, Gerten has been named the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week.

Friday, SCU upset their ranked foes at home 2-1 behind a strong performance from Gerten. She made 38 saves and allowed a single goal in 60 minutes of ice time. She was spectacular again Saturday in a 1-1 tie with the Gusties on the road. Gerten stopped 29 shots and again allowed just a single goal to Gustavus in 65 minutes of action. For the weekend, she made 67 saves on 69 shots. This season, Gerten ranks in the top seven in all three major statistical categories. She's fourth in win percentage (.571), fifth in goals against average (1.98) and seventh in save percentage (.917) with a 7-5-2 record in net.

The three-point weekend helped St. Catherine improve to 8-6-2 overall and 5-3-2 in the MIAC. The Wildcats are tied for fourth with 12 points with co-leaders Gustavus and St. Thomas just three points ahead at 15. This

weekend, SCU faces another big series as they face the team they're tied with in the standings. They'll host Bethel Friday night and travel to the Royals' home ice Saturday for another important conference series.

Jess Ptachick, St. Olaf

Apple Valley, Minn. / Bemidji State

Week of: 2011-01-24



The St. Olaf women's hockey team earned two of its biggest wins of the season over the weekend, sweeping second-place St. Catherine in a pair of 3-2 games. Much of the credit for the big Oles' sweep goes to senior goalie **Jess Ptachick** (Apple Valley, Minn. / Bemidji State). Ptachick stopped 56 of the 60 shots she faced over the two games, and only one of the four goals she allowed came when the two teams were at even strength. For her performance, Ptachick has been named the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week for the second time this season.

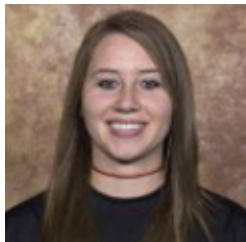
Friday, Ptachick stopped 23 of the 25 shots she faced, including 11 second-period saves. Both Wildcat goals in Friday's game came at an advantage – one power play goal, and one with an extra attacker in the closing minutes. Saturday Ptachick made 33 saves on 35 shots, including another big second period (14 saves) and again, one of the goals allowed came against the SCU power play. This season, the senior is 5-4 in net with a 2.77 goals allowed average (8th in MIAC), a .934 save percentage (fourth in MIAC) and a .556 winning percentage (T-4th in the MIAC).

St. Olaf is currently tied for fourth place in the MIAC standings with a 5-9-1 overall record, a 4-3-1 MIAC mark and nine points. Ptachick and the Oles are back in action this weekend with another big MIAC home-and-home series. Friday, St. Olaf travels to Bethel for a 7 p.m. start and Saturday the Royals head down to Northfield for a 7:30 p.m. face off.

Katelyn Dold, Concordia

St. Cloud, Minn. / Tech

Week of: 2011-01-17



If last Saturday's performance is any indication, Concordia junior **Katelyn Dold** (St. Cloud, Minn./Tech) will petition for the Cobbers to play all their games outdoors in the elements. The Concordia forward was the brightest star in last weekend's historic game – the first outdoor hockey game in Division III history – as she racked six points and led the Cobbers to a 9-1 win and a weekend sweep of Saint Benedict. For her huge performance on the big stage, Dold was named the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week honor.

After helping Concordia score a 2-1 win over the Blazers Friday night, Dold turned Saturday's outdoor game in Sartell, Minn., into her own personal scoring spree. She racked up five assists and one goal in the blowout win and boosted her impressive individual season stats. After the weekend, Dold is the MIAC's leading goal scorer with 12, her 20 points rank second in the conference and she's tied for sixth with eight assists this season.

Last weekend's sweep produced Concordia's first two conference wins of the season, as the Cobbers improved to 8-

6-1 this season and 2-5-1 in the conference, which gives them five points and a share of sixth place. This weekend, Concordia will try to continue its winning ways as it welcomes Augsburg to Moorhead for a weekend MIAC series. Friday's game begins at 7 p.m. with Saturday's game set to start at 2 p.m.

Kayla Clifton, St. Catherine

Grand Rapids, Minn. / Grand Rapids
Week of: 2011-01-10



St. Catherine University junior **Kayla Clifton** (Grand Rapids, Minn./Grand Rapids) helped the Wildcats celebrate the Holiday season in style with some huge performances and a 2-1 record during the break from MIAC play. Clifton earned All-Tournament Team honors at the Holiday Classic in Vermont to open the new year, and she brought that magic back to Minnesota by scoring the game-winner Saturday at Hamline in a non-conference win over the Pipers. For her recent performances, Clifton has been named 2011's first MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week.

After a 3-0 loss to Colby to open the new year at the Holiday Classic, Clifton and the Wildcats responded with a big 4-2 win over the host school, Saint Michael's behind a big game from Clifton. After Saint Michael opened with a 2-0 lead in the first period, St. Catherine got an assist and the eventual game-winning goal from Clifton in the second period to storm back from the two-goal deficit. Clifton's clutch play continued Saturday when she found the back of the net with just 1:15 remaining to break a 2-2 tie and hand the Pipers a 3-2 nonconference loss. This season, Clifton has three goals and four assists for a total of seven points. She ranks third in the MIAC in both defensemen scoring and game-winning goals.

Up to this point, the Wildcats are in the thick of the MIAC title hunt with a 7-4-1 overall record, and a 4-1-1 conference mark with nine points to sit in a three-way tie for second – just a point behind league-leading Gustavus. This weekend, SCU has a big home-and-home MIAC series with St. Olaf. The Wildcats will host Friday's game at 7 p.m. and will travel to Northfield for a 2 p.m. start on Saturday.

Alise Riedel, St. Thomas

Hudson, Wis. / Hudson
Week of: 2010-12-06



A pair of conference front-runners clashed last weekend when St. Thomas and Gustavus squared off in women's hockey, and goaltending ruled the series. UST earned a split with the defending MIAC champs thanks largely to the play of **Alise Riedel** (Hudson, Wis.), who allowed just a single goal over two games and shut out the Gusties to help St. Thomas keep pace in the conference standings. The freshman stopped 53 of the 54 shots she saw over the weekend and, for her performance, as named the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week.

Friday, Riedel was magnificent, stopping all 26 Gustie shots she faced to help UST earn a 1-0 over Division III's fourth-ranked team. The Tommies' victory stopped a 15-game winning streak by Gustavus. The next afternoon, Riedel made seven saves and allowed just a single goal in a 1-0 Gusties' win to even the series. This season, UST's freshman stopper has 108 saves with just four goals allowed for a .964 save percentage and a 0.79 goals against average. Riedel's save percentage is second in the MIAC and fourth in all of Division III, and her GAA is also second in the conference and fifth in the nation. She has recorded two shutouts this season.

With the split, St. Thomas improved to 4-3-1 overall and 4-1-1 in the MIAC. The Tommies close the 2010 portion of their schedule on Dec. 10, when they host St. Olaf in Mendota Heights, Minn., for a nonconference game at 7 p.m. After that, UST takes more than a month off before returning to action on Jan. 12 against UW-Eau Claire.

Jess Ptachick, St. Olaf

Apple Valley, Minn. / Bemidji State
Week of: 2010-11-22



St. Olaf goalie **Jess Ptachick** (Apple Valley, Minn./Bemidji State) was tested early and often in her team's two-game series with MIAC foe Concordia over the weekend. However, Ptachick was at her best, stopping 91 shots, earning one shutout, and leading the Oles to a two-game sweep of the Cobbers. For her performance, Ptachick has been named the MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week.

Friday, Ptachick face an onslaught from the Concordia offense, but the senior was strong between the pipes with 51 saves, including 29 during a penalty-filled second period. Ptachick allowed just one first-period goal, and one in the final eight minutes of the 3-2 win. She was equally impressive the next day, stopping all 40 Cobber shots she saw as St. Olaf sealed the sweep in a 5-0 shutout. This season, Ptachick's .945 save percentage is fourth-best in the league, and she has a 2.61 goals against average with 222 saves – the second-highest total in the MIAC.

The Oles and their goalie will enjoy a week off before returning to conference play. St. Olaf will travel to the Twin Cities Dec. 3-4 for a two-game MIAC series against Bethel University. St. Olaf enters its week off 2-3 overall and 2-2 in the MIAC.

Haley Coolsaet, Saint Mary's

Grosse Island, Mich. / Victory Honda U19
Week of: 2010-11-15



Saint Mary's freshman **Haley Coolsaet** (Grosse Island, Mich./Victory Honda U19) showed she certainly knows how to put a stylish finishing touch on an important conference victory this weekend in Moorhead, Minn. The Cardinals took the MIAC season-opening series from Concordia on the Cobbers' home ice over the weekend, with their fantastic freshman scoring a hat trick in the third period of the second game to give SMU a 5-2 win. For her performance, Coolsaet has been named the first MIAC Women's Hockey Athlete-of-the-Week of the 2010-11 season.

After the two teams played to a 3-3 tie Friday night, Saint Mary's took a 2-0 lead into the third period. Concordia scored early to cut the deficit in half, and then Coolsaet took over. In less than five minutes the freshman forward scored three times to clinch the series victory. Coolsaet's first collegiate hat trick was another great moment for the rookie, who is off to a great start. Her six goals rank second in the MIAC and her seven points have her tied for fifth in the league standings.

The Cardinals and their star freshman will try to continue their hot start this weekend with a MIAC series against Hamline. SMU will travel to St. Paul for Friday's game at 7 p.m., and the series will conclude Saturday in Winona at 4 p.m. Saint Mary's is off to a 4-1-1 start overall, and a 1-0-1 start in conference play.