# 2015-16 MIAC Women's Hockey Preview and Preseason Coaches' Poll

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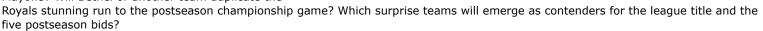
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## 2015-16 MIAC Women's Hockey Conference Preview

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. -- The 2015-16 Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) women's hockey season is about to begin, and there are several key questions that add intrigue to the start of another enticing campaign in "The State of Hockey."

Will Gustavus continue adding to its recent dynasty with another MIAC regular-season championship? Can St. Thomas make it three titles in a row in the MIAC Playoffs? Will Bethel or another team duplicate the



Last season, Gustavus pulled away in the season's final weeks to claim its 10th MIAC championship in the last 11 years with a 15-2-1 conference record (19-5-2 overall) and 31 points in the conference standings. St. Thomas, the team that ended Gustavus' run of title the previous season, was solidly in second with 26 points (14-10-4, 11-3-4 MIAC), but things were extremely tight in the standings after the top two with just three points separating the next five teams.

Concordia finished with 21 points (10-13-3, 9-6-3 MIAC) to beat out Saint Mary's (11-12-3, 9-7-2 MIAC, 20 points) by a single point for third place, and Bethel finished with 19 points (15-10-3, 8-7-3 MIAC) to win an extremely tight race for the fifth and final MIAC Playoff spot. Both Augsburg (9-11-5, 7-7-4 MIAC) and St. Catherine (9-11-5, 7-7-4 MIAC) finished with 18 points and missed out a trip to the postseason by a single point.

Saint Benedict finished with 14 points (7-13-2, 6-10-2 MIAC) in sole possession of eighth place. Hamline was 6-17-2 overall and 4-12-2 in conference play to finish ninth with 10 points, and St. Olaf (1-21-3, 0-15-3 MIAC, 3 points) rounded out the final spot in the 2014-15 standings.

Though Gustavus ruled the regular season, the postseason featured St. Thomas claiming its second-straight MIAC Playoff title with a win over a Bethel team that went on a magical run to reach the championship game. The Royals erupted for 13 goals in road upsets over Saint Mary's and Gustavus, and the Tommies used a one-goal win over Concordia to also reach the title game. There, St. Thomas won a thrilling one-goal game over Bethel, 3-2, for its second-straight Playoff title.

Another major storyline heading into the 2015-16 season is a new, but recognizable, face in the coaching ranks as Natalie Darwitz takes over at Hamline. Darwitz is one of the most decorated women's hockey players in history with a career that includes two national championships at the University of Minnesota and three trips to the Olympics as one of Team USA's best players.

With so much returning talent and all the rich storylines and key questions that need answering this winter, the puck can't drop to start the 2015-16 season fast enough.

## THE POLLS ARE IN

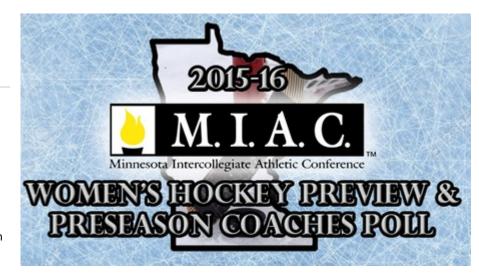
The Tommies' stellar postseason run inspired the MIAC coaches to tab them as the favorite to unseat the Gusties atop the conference standings and claim their second title in three years. St. Thomas received eight first-place votes and 80 points to finish first in the 2015-16 MIAC Women's Hockey Preseason Coaches' Poll, while the Gusties were solidly in second with the other two first-place votes and 73 points.

The coaches had a hard time distinguishing between Concordia and Bethel for third place, as the Cobbers (59 points) just barely edged the Royals (57 points) in the poll. Things were also close in the predictions for the fifth and final Playoff spot, as the coaches tabbed Saint Mary's to finish fifth with 47 points, while Augsburg was a close sixth with 43 points.

St. Catherine finished seventh in the poll and is also expected to challenge for a Playoff spot with 38 points. Saint Benedict received 25 points to finish eighth in the rankings, and Hamline (16) edged St. Olaf (12) for ninth place by four points.

#### **PLAYERS TO WATCH**

Last year, Gustavus returned to the top of the MIAC mountain after a string of nine-straight titles was interrupted in 2013-14. However, the Gusties reclaimed the crown in 2014-15, the team's 10th in 11 years - and Mike Carroll's squad has designs on adding to the dynasty this season and opens play as the ninth-ranked team in the nation. Standout goalie Lindsey Hibbard is back in the net to anchor the Gustavus defense, and All-MIAC forwards Allison Eder-Zdechlik and Erica Power both return to lead the Gustie offensive attack.



St. Thomas graduated two of its top forwards in Tara Baggo and Paige Baldwin, but is excited about the blue line with All-American Megan Juricko and All-MIAC defender Nuala Flood both back. All-Conference forward Courtney Umland is back to lead the Tommie offense, which will also receive a boost from the transfer of Kathryn Larson, who earned All-American honors at rival Bethel last season.

Concordia graduated MIAC Player-of-the-Year and All-American forward Maddy Gendreau along with some other key players, but the Cobbers are eyeing another top-three finish in Head Coach Jason Gregoire's second season. All-MIAC Honorable Mention goalie Andrea Klug is back, and junior Amber Schaack and sophomore Emily Goff are both expected to fill expanded roles in 2015-16.

Saint Mary's will once again be led by standout defender Macki Fadness, who is a three-time All-MIAC selection. The team also welcomes back junior forward Kassie Lien and goalie Tori Hermann to fuel the Cardinals hope of a return to the postseason. Bethel also has expectations of returning to the MIAC Playoff title game again in 2015-16, despite the departure of some talented forwards. Two-time All-MIAC pick Erin Harper will lead the defenders, and the Royals are still in great shape on offense with the return of Caroline Kivisto and Lauren Kolak, who combined for 43 points in 2014-15.

Augsburg and St. Catherine tied for sixth last season and just missed out on the final Playoff bid, and both enter the new season hopeful to build on that momentum and leap into the postseason field. The Auggies have key players back at each spot, as goalie Erika Allen, forward Kayla Fuechtmann and defender Danielle Heitkamp each received All-MIAC Honorable Mention honors last season. The Wildcats graduated All-MIAC forward Megan Killmer, but also have an Honorable Mention goalie back in Abbi White, and defender Randi Fabsits and forward Jordan Solheim will also lead St. Kate's this season.

Saint Benedict should be set on offense with its top three scorers all returning, as juniors Elli Marvin and Steph Kirk and sophomore Brigette Miller will give the Blazers a formidable crop of forwards this season. Hamline has seniors Chelsea Koehn (forward) and Jenny Maghill (defense) both back after earning All-MIAC Honorable Mention honors last year to lead the way in Darwitz's first season. St. Olaf also will continue building around its young nucleus, led by juniors Drue Engelman and Hannah Forliti and sophomore Jane Vezina.

#### **CIRCLE THESE DATES**

It won't e long now before the puck drops to start the 2015-16 season, and fans have no doubt circled Friday, Oct. 30 and Saturday, Oct. 31 as the start of the season for most of the MIAC's teams. Four teams - Saint Mary's, Hamline, Augsburg and St. Olaf - make their season debut Friday with three more - St. Thomas, Bethel and St. Catherine - starting on Saturday. The rest of the conference will open their seasons the following week, as nonconference play will open the first couple weeks of the season.

The battle for the MIAC championship and the five Playoff spots will officially begin on Nov. 13-14 with the first full weekend of conference play. There will be three full conference weekends with more nonconference mixed in before the league goes on hiatus in mid-December for finals and the holiday break.

The action on the ice will really heat up in January as teams return to the ice at the start of the new year, and resume conference play on Jan. 15-16, with six intense weekends of MIAC series looming. The regular season will have its thrilling conclusion on Feb. 19-20, and the MIAC Playoffs will follow with the quarterfinal game on Thursday, Feb. 25, the semifinals on Saturday, Feb. 27, and the championship game scheduled for Saturday, March 5.

#### A CLOSER LOOK

The rest of the 2015-16 MIAC women's Hockey Preview contains complete results from the 2015-16 Preseason Coaches' Poll, helpful links and a preview for each team submitted by their sports information director. The MIAC web site - <a href="www.miacathletics.com">www.miacathletics.com</a> - will be an outstanding source for MIAC women's hockey news, schedules, scores, stats and more throughout the 2015-16season.

Visit the <u>MIAC scoreboard</u> on game days to follow all the action, and download the <u>MIAC mobile app</u> to have all the information on-the-go. Also, connect to the conference on its <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Instagram</u> and <u>YouTube</u> pages for updates and interaction all season long.

## 2015-16 MIAC Women's Hockey Preseason Coaches' Poll

Coaches voted for every team in the conference except their own team. Points were assigned for each vote (nine for first, eight for second, etc.) Teams are ranked in order of highest point total to lowest with vote totals listed and first-place votes shown in parentheses.

#### 2015-16 MIAC Women's Hockey Preseason Coaches' Poll Rank **Institution Total** 1. St. Thomas (8) 80 2. Gustavus (2) 73 59 3. Concordia 4. Bethel 57 5. Saint Mary's 47 43 6. Augsburg 7. St. Catherine 38 8. Saint Benedict 25 9. Hamline 16

10. St. Olaf 12	
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## 2015-16 MIAC Women's Hockey Playoffs

The 2015-16 MIAC Playoffs will feature the top five teams in the conference standings playing in a high-seed-host, single-elimination postseason tournament. The Playoff schedule received a slight update in 2015-16, with the quarterfinal game moving up a day. The lone quarterfinal game between the No. 4 and No. 5 seeds will now be played Thursday, Feb. 26, with the two semifinal games to follow on Saturday, Feb. 28. The championship game is set for the following Saturday, March 7. The winner will receive the MIAC's automatic bid to the 2016 NCAA Division III Women's Hockey Tournament.

| MIAC Women's Hockey Playoffs Web Sites | 2016 | 2015 |

## **MIAC Women's Hockey Links**

| Website | Standings | Schedule | Statistics | News | Recordbook | Archives |

## **MIAC Team-by-Team Previews**

| <u>AUG</u> | <u>BU</u> | <u>CON</u> | <u>GAC</u> | <u>HU</u> | <u>CSB</u> | <u>SCU</u> | <u>SMU</u> | <u>STO</u> | <u>UST</u> |



## AUGSBURG | Auggies' women's hockey home page |

#### **Head Coach**

• Michelle McAteer (6th season)

## A Year Ago

• 7-7-4 MIAC (T-6th place) | 9-11-5 Overall

#### **Top Returners**

- Erika Allen (G, SR | All-MIAC honorable mention in 2014-15; 6-7-5 in 2014-15 with 3 shutouts, 1.84 GAA and .934 save percentage; 3rd among MIAC goalies in overall save percentage and 4th in GAA; 15th in NCAA Division III in save percentage and 18th in GAA; transferred to Augsburg in 2014-15 from Bethel, where she earned All-MIAC in 2013-14 and MIAC All-Rookie Team honors in 2012-13; career statistics: 28-19-6 record, 1.75 GAA, .933 save percentage, 9 shutouts)
- Kayla Fuechtmann (F, SR | All-MIAC honorable mention in 2014-15, All-MIAC in 2013-14; led Augsburg with 11 goals in 2014-15, along with 4 assists for 15 points; t-5th among MIAC players in overall goals, t-24th in points; goal or assist in 13 of 25 games in 2014-15, with 2 multiple-point games; 27 goals, 17 assists, 44 points in 72-game career)
- Danielle Heitkamp (D, JR | All-MIAC honorable mention in 2014-15 and 2013-14, MIAC All-Rookie Team in 2013-14; led Augsburg defenders in total scoring with 1 goal, 6 assists for 7 points; t-10th among MIAC defenders in overall assists, t-15th in points; 5 goals, 10 assists for 15 points in 50 career games)

## **Key Losses**

- Rachel Hennessy (F | All-MIAC in 2011-12, All-MIAC honorable mention in 2012-13, MIAC All-Rookie Team in 2011-12; 9 goals, 6 assists for 15 points in 2014-15; 49 goals, 23 assists for 72 points in 100-game career; 6th in school history in career points, 4th in goals, t-14th in assists)
- Brianna Schulz (G | All-MIAC Sportsmanship Team in 2014-15, All-MIAC honorable mention in 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14; 1-3-0 with 3.19 GAA and .902 save percentage in 2014-15; 21-39-7 with 5 shutouts, 2.51 GAA and .927 save percentage in 67 career games; school record-holder in career save percentage, 3rd in GAA and wins, 2nd with 2,097 career saves)
- Kendall Christian (F | 1 goal in 2014-15; 8 goals, 11 assists, 19 points in 98-game career)

## By the Numbers

- 20: As the oldest collegiate women's hockey program in the Midwest, Augsburg completed its 20th season of varsity play in 2014-15. The Auggies will celebrate 20 years of women's hockey during its game against St. Thomas on Feb. 13, 2016.
- 7: Victories in MIAC play in 2014-15, the most for Augsburg since the 2005-06 campaign. Augsburg's nine overall victories in 2014-15 tied the previous year's total for the most overall wins for the Auggies since the 2004-05 season.
- 5: Auggies who earned All-MIAC honorable-mention honors in 2014-15 -- goalie Erika Allen, forwards Kayla Fuechtmann and Callen Naasz, and defenders Danielle Heitkamp and Brenna Nakonechny.

## **Did You Know?**

• Augsburg completed its third-ever excursion to Europe during the 2014-15 holiday break, going 2-0-1 in games in Austria, Italy and Switzerland. Twenty-two Auggie players competed during the trip.

## Off the Ice

• Augsburg assistant coaches Sanya Sandahl and Ashley Holmes served as coaches at the USA Hockey U-18 Development Camp in July in St. Cloud, Minn. Sandahl served as a goalie coach, while Holmes was an intern coach at the camp, which featured 180 elite women's hockey players from around the country.

## BETHEL | Royals' women's hockey home page |



#### Head coach

• Brian Carlson (6th season)

## A Year Ago

• 8-7-3 MIAC (5th place) | 15-10-3 Overall

#### In the 2014 Postseason

• Defeated Saint Mary's University 7-1, Gustavus 6-3 and lost to St. Thomas 3-2 in MIAC Championship Game

#### **Top Returners**

- Caroline Kivisto (F, Sr. | 8G, 14A, 22 Pts.)
- Lauren Kolak (F, Jr. | 9G, 12A, 21 Pts.)
- Erin Harper (D, Sr. | Two-time MIAC All-Conference)

#### **Key Losses**

- Lindsay Burman (F | MIAC All-Conference Honorable Mention)
- Kalie Johnson (F | Two-time MIAC All-Conference)

## By the Numbers

- 202: Bethel scored 202 goals last year, which ranked No. 12 among all teams nationwide and No. 1 across the conference. Their 3.04 goals per game average also ranked among the Top 15 nationally and No. 1 league-wide.
- 74: The Bethel University women's hockey program has won 74 games over the past five years, which is the second-most among any conference team during that stretch.
- 20: The MIAC has honored 20 Royals to the All-Conference Team over the past five seasons. No other team within the league has received more accolades during this stretch.

#### **Did You Know?**

• The Royals have defeated nine teams ranked among the USCHO.com Top 10 list over the past five years. During that same stretch Bethel has been ranked among the same list four times.

#### Off the Ice

• Eight players on the Bethel University squad were recognized to the MIAC Academic All-Conference team last year. To receive this honor student-athletes must maintain a 3.5 GPA and compete in over 50 percent of the team's games.

## **CONCORDIA** | Cobbers' women's hockey home page |

## **Head coach**

Jason Gregoire (2nd season)

#### Year Ago

• 9-6-3 MIAC (3rd place) | 10-13-3 Overall

## In the 2014 Postseason

• Lost to St. Thomas 3-2 in MIAC semifinals

#### **Top Returners**

- Andrea Klug (G, Jr. | 2015 All-MIAC Honorable Mention; led the team in goals against average and save percentage last season)
- Amber Schaack, Jr. | tied for third on the team in scoring in 2015)
- Emily Goff (D, So. | 2015 MIAC All-Rookie Team; tied for 15th in the MIAC in defenseman scoring)

## **Key Losses**

- Maddy Gendreau (F | 2015 MIAC MVP; 2015 All-American; led the MIAC in scoring in conference games in 2015)
- Libby Fransdal (D | Two-time All-MIAC; helped Cobbers hold MIAC opponents to under three goals in 13 MIAC games)
- Kelsey Vandegrift (F) 2015 MIAC All-Conference; led the team in goals scored and was second in overall scoring in 2015)

## By the Numbers

- 5: Concordia has played in the MIAC semifinals for five straight seasons
- 8: The Cobbers have won at least 10 games in eight straight seasons
- 30: Lost 30 of the team's 69 goals last season due to graduation

# GUSTAVUS | Gusties' women's hockey home page |

## **Head coach**

Mike Carroll (17th season)

## A Year Ago



• Fell to Bethel University 6-3 in MIAC Playoff Semifinal

#### **Top Returners**

- Allison Eder-Zdechlik (Forward, Sr., Stillwater, Minn. | 2013-14 and 2014-15 All-Conference honoree ... ranked fourth on team and ninth in MIAC in 2014 in goals scored with nine, second on team in assists and points with 11 and 20, respectively, led team in plus/minus with +19)
- Lindsey Hibbard (Goalie, Sr., Princeton, Minn. | 2014-15 All-Conference honoree ... compiled overall record of 17-3-2 after starting 23 of 26 games ... ranked third in nation in minutes played with 1,348:23 ... led nation in shutouts with seven ... ranked third in nation in wins with 17 ... ranked seventh in nation in winning percentage with a .818 ... ranked second in nation in goals against average with a 1.20 ... ranked sixth in nation in save percentage with .941)
- Erica Power (Forward, So., Lakeville, Minn. | 2014-15 All-Conference honoree ... named to 2014 MIAC All-Rookie Team ... recorded a teambest 26 points off eight goals and 18 assists ... led MIAC rookies in scoring, ranked second in assists, and fourth in points ... first rookie to lead Gustavus in scoring since Ingrid Neve '07 did so during 2003-04 season)

#### **Key Losses**

- Courtney Boucher (Defender | 2014-15 All-American ... 2013-14 and 2014-15 All-Conference honoree ... anchored one of the top-ranked defensive units in NCAA Division III ... team goals against average of 1.40 ranked third in nation and team killed penalties at 88-percent rate ... tallied five goals to go along with eight assists, good for second in the MIAC in defender scoring)
- Carolyn Draayer (Forward | 2014 and 2015 CoSIDA Academic All-American ... awarded NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship ... 2013-14 and 2014-15 All-Conference honoree ... 2014-15 Sheila Brown Winner ... led team and ranked third in MIAC in goals with 12 ... tied for second on team in points with 20 ... tied for the MIAC lead in power play goals with five and game-winning goals with four)

#### By the Numbers

- 4: Number of consecutive years the Gusties have had at least four All-Conference honorees
- 12: Number of conference titles Gustavus has won in the 16-year history of MIAC women's hockey
- 16: Number of Gustavus All-American selections in the past 10 years

#### **Did You Know?**

• In their 18 seasons on the ice, the Gustavus women's hockey team has compiled an all-time record of 386-102-28, which stands as the second winningest program in all of NCAA Division III women's hockey. Middlebury College (Vermont) is first with 560 wins.

#### Off the Ice

• Since the 2006-07 season, the Gustavus women's hockey program has been honored with nine CoSIDA Academic All-American selections from six individuals, including two-time honorees Carolyn Draayer (2014, 2015), Lindsey Hjelm (2012, 2013), and Margaret Dorer (2007, 2008).



HAMLINE | Pipers' women's hockey home page |

#### **Head coach**

• Natalie Darwitz (1st season)

## A Year Ago

• 4-12-2 MIAC (9th place) | 6-17-2 Overall

#### **Top Returners**

- Chelsea Koehn (F, Sr., 8 g, 10 a, 18 pts. MIAC Hon. Mention, 3 year regular, 50 career points)
- Jenny Maghill (D, Sr., 0 g, 10 a, 10 pts. MIAC Hon. Mention, Three-year regular)

## **Key Losses**

- Jordan Verleye (F, 11 g, 11 a, 22 pts, All-MIAC)
- Kelsey Rafferty (F, 11 g, 6 a, tied for team lead in goals)

## By the Numbers

- 3: transfers from NCAA schools on the 2015-16 roster
- 4: freshman on the 2015-16 roster
- 17: returnees from 2014-15 team

#### **Did You Know?**

• Nine players on the 2015-16 hockey team intend to be members of Hamline's first women's lacrosse team next spring.

#### Off the Ice

• The Pipers had six players on the 2014-15 MIAC Academic All-Conference winter team. (Four of those players – Megan Gjere, Kendra Krause, Megan Lawry and Jaci Reinke) are slated to be on the 2015-16 team.

#### Head coach

• Jen Kranz (5th season)



A Year Ago

• 6-10-2 MIAC (8th place) | 7-13-2 Overall

#### **Top Returners**

- Elli Marvin (F, Jr | All-MIAC Honorable Mention, led team in points, goals and assists)
- Steph Kirk (F, Jr | Second on the team in points, goals and tied for lead in assists)
- Brigette Miller (F, So | Tied for second on the team with 6 goals, third on team in points)

#### **Key Losses**

- Jenna Traut (G | All-MIAC Honorable Mention, school record for career save percentage)
- Megan Brettingen (D | All-MIAC Honorable Mention)
- Tara Frey (F | Team captain, All-MIAC honorable mention in 2014)

## By the Numbers

- 7: Seven wins last season tied for the most in a season in coach Kranz's tenure
- 6: Six conference wins was the most since the 2008-09 season for CSB
- 31: The Blazers' top six scorers return from last season in Elli Marvin, Steph Kirk, Brigette Miller, Liz Hermes, Kim Patterson and Aly Hoffman. Between them, they scored 31 goals.

#### **Did You Know?**

• The Blazers upset St. Thomas, which was receiving votes in Division III, 5-3 to end their home season in 2014-15. The win was the first for CSB against the Tommies in at least 10 years.



## ST. CATHERINE | Wildcats' women's hockey home page |

#### Head coach

• Brad Marshall (11th season)

## A Year Ago

• 7-7-4 MIAC (T-6th place) | 9-11-5 Overall

## **Top Returners**

- Abbi White (Jr., G | All-MIAC Honorable Mention, 2014-15; Led Division III and MIAC in regular season with .948 save percentage; Second in MIAC goals against average (1.39))
- Randi Fabsits (Sr., D | All-MIAC Honorable Mention, 2013-14, 2014-15; top 10 in MIAC defense for scoring)
- Jordan Solheim (Jr., F | Second on team in points (14), tied first in goals (8))

## **Key Lossessm**

- Megan Killmer (F | All-MIAC, 2012-13, 2014-15; All-MIAC Honorable Mention 2013-14; Led Wildcats in goals (8), assists (8) and points (16))
- Bailey Rasmussen (F | All-MIAC Honorable Mention, 2013-14, 2014-15; Third on team in points (12) and goals (6))

#### By the Numbers

- 5: The Wildcats' five ties last season were tied for most in the MIAC and are the most for a St. Kate's squad since 2002-03 when the team went 10-10-5 overall.
- 7: The Wildcats allowed just power play goals to their opponents last season. That total was the lowest in the MIAC. They also led the league with a 91.1 percent penalty kill.
- .937: Collectively, the Wildcat goalies posted a .937 save percentage that ranked first in the MIAC last season.

#### Off the Ice

• Several Wildcats spent time doing unique research in the spring and summer. Karly Nelson participated in the "Mile in my Shoes" project with the public health department, and Abbi White spent the summer in Iceland doing biology research.

# SAINT MARY'S | Cardinals' women's hockey home page |



Terry Mannor (11th season)

## A Year Ago

• 9-7-2 MIAC (4th) | 11-12-3 Overall

## In The 2014 Postseason

• MIAC Playoffs: vs. Bethel (L, 7-1)

#### **Top Returners**

• Macki Fadness (5-10, Sr., Def. | 24 GP, 3 G, 2 A, 5 Pts. | Three-Time First-Team All-MIAC)

- Kassie Lien (5-3, Jr., F | 5 G, 7 A, 12 Pts. | Career highs in all three offensive categories | H-M All-MIAC, 2014-15)
- Tori Herrmann (5-6, Sr. G | 2.04 GAA, 343 saves, .922 Save % | First-Team All-MIAC, 2014-15)

#### **Key Losses**

- Breanna Peterson (26 GP, 6 G, 9 A, 15 Pts. | 2-time First-Team All-MIAC, 2013-14, 2014-15; H-M All-MIAC, 2012-13)
- Mary DeBartolo (26 GP, 3 G, 7 A, 10 Pts.)
- Mackenzie Klimek (26 GP, 2 G, 1 A, 3 Pts.)

## By The Numbers

- 4: Saint Mary's had four players who recorded multiple-goal games this season—Breanna Peterson (Macomb, Mich.), Jamie Henderson (Madison, Wis.), Macki Fadness (Eau Claire, Wis.), and Molly Abraham (Sterling Heights, Mich.). Peterson scored twice vs. St. Olaf on Jan. 30, while Fadness posted her first collegiate two-goal game in Saint Mary's 3-2 OT win over St. Catherine on Dec. 6. Abraham recorded her first two-goal game as a Cardinal in Saint Mary's 3-2 win over Saint Benedict on Nov. 21, and Henderson scored her multiple-goal game against UW-Eau Claire on Jan. 2.
- 19: The Cardinals played 19 games that were decided by two goals or less—including 12 of their final 13.
- 43: Tori Herrmann (Hutchinson, Minn.) recorded a season-high 43 saves in a 0-0 tie against St. Thomas on Nov. 15. The 43-save effort was one save shy of her career high. The junior stopped 44 shots against Concordia on Feb. 16, 2013.

#### **Did You Know?**

• Saint Mary's tie vs. St. Thomas on Nov. 15 marked the second time in the last three seasons that the Cardinals have played to a 0-0 tie. Saint Mary's and Concordia battled to a 0-0 stalemate on Feb. 15, 2013.

#### Off The Ice

• Jesse Cwik (Chicago, Ill.), Jane Hannula (Coon Rapids, Minn.), and Mackenzie Klimek (Hastings, Minn.) represented the Cardinals on the academic all-conference squad, while Katie LeTourneau (White Bear Lake, Minn.) was one of the recipients of the 2015 Mike Augustin Scholarship.



ST. OLAF | Oles' women's hockey home page |

## **Head coach**

• John Bazzachini (11th season)

#### A Year Ago

• 0-15-3 MIAC (9th place) | 1-21-3 Overall

#### **Top Returners**

- Drue Engelman (F, Jr. | Five goals, five assists in 2014-15.)
- Jane Vezina (F, So. | Tallied five goals and five assists last season.)
- Hannah Forliti (D, Jr. | Had eight of 10 points in league games in 2014-15.)

## **Key Losses**

• Caroline Ponessa (D | Played in 97 career games... Had 16 career points.)



ST. THOMAS | Tommies' women's hockey home page |

#### **Head coach**

• Tom Palkowski (9th season)

## A Year Ago

• 11-3-4 MIAC (2nd place) | 14-10-4 Overall

## In the 2014 Postseason

- MIAC postseason results (def. Concordia 3-2; def. Bethel 3-2)
- NCAA postseason results (lost 1-4 to Plattsburgh (N.Y.) State )

## **Top Returners**

- Megan Juricko (D, SR| All-America, captain, 2X All-MIAC, 87 career games, 15g-26a)
- Nuala Flood (D, SR |All-MIAC, Career: 82 games, 5g-12a)
- Courtney Umland (F, SR | All-MIAC, Career: 82 games, 26g-36a)

## **Key Losses**

- Tara Baago (F | 2X All-MIAC; 101 career games, 25g-41a)
- Paige Baldwin (F | All-MIAC, 108 career games. 21g-22a)
- Taylor Neisen (GK | 2014-15: 8-6-2, 2.51 GAA, .899 save%)

## By the Numbers

- 7: Seniors on the roster, key contributors to Tommies' back-to-back NCAA playoff teams from 2013-2015
- 19-2: Tommies record in games on her career when Courtney Umland scores a goal
- 11: Incoming freshmen, including goalies Frances Marshall (Thief River Falls, Minnesota Senior Goalie of the Year) and Kenzie Torpy

(Oregon, Wis., Wisconsin State Player of the Year),

## **Did You Know?**

• Junior forward Kathryn Larson, a Division III All-America, transferred last summer to St. Thomas from Bethel. The Shoreview native scored 36 goals and 29 assists in 54 career games with the Royals, including both goals last March in her team's 3-2 MIAC playoff title game loss to UST. Kaylee Druk is a sophomore transfer from Division I Syracuse, where she played in 34 games in 2014-15.

## Off the Ice

• The Tommies return four players named Academic All-MIAC last season with grade-point averages above 3.50: Hannah Burns, Nuala Flood, Megan Juricko, Courtney Umland.

MIAC Women's Hockey Home Page