

MIAC announces 2019 Women's Soccer awards

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BLOOMINGTON, Minn. – With the 2019 Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) women's soccer season complete and NCAA Tournament action set to begin this weekend, the conference announced its annual end-of-season awards on Wednesday.

MIAC coaches selected Saint Benedict forward **Megan Thompson** as the league's Offensive Player of the Year, while Augsburg goalkeeper **Emily Chapman** was named Defensive Player of the Year. St. Catherine midfielder **Amanda Elton** was selected Rookie of the Year and St. Thomas head coach **Sheila McGill** was honored by her peers as Coach of the Year.

Thompson (Jr. | Inver Grove Heights, Minn. | Holy Angels) earned Offensive Player of the Year honors after leading the conference in points and goals, both overall (41 and 18) and in conference play (21 and 10) this season. Thompson set a new single-season scoring record at Saint Benedict with her 18 goals and finished the year one shy of the program points record. She had five multi-goal goals and nine game-winners, with five of those game-winning goals coming against conference opponents. Thompson - who was named MIAC Rookie of the Year in 2017 - is the first CSB soccer player to receive a MIAC Player of the Year distinction since Colleen Bouchard in 2011. The MIAC has selected Offensive, Defensive, and Rookie of the Year honorees since 2015. From 1991-2014, only a singular Player of the Year was awarded for women's soccer.

Chapman (Sr. | Elburn, Ill. | Kaneland) was named Defensive Player of the Year after racking up nine wins, five shutouts, and a 0.915 save percentage in conference play. Each of those figures represents a MIAC-best this season and no conference opponent was able to get past her more than once all season. Chapman stayed in goal for all but 34 minutes of play for the NCAA Tournament-bound Auggies this fall. She is the first Augsburg player in history to receive MIAC Defensive Player of the Year honors in women's soccer, and the first Auggie to receive an individual Player of the Year award in women's soccer since Ashley St. Aubin was named Offensive Player of the Year in 2017.

Elton (Fy. | Cottage Grove, Minn. | Park) received MIAC Rookie of the Year honors after leading all first-year players with eight goals and 20 points in conference action this season and leading all MIAC players in with nine total assists on the year. Elton had two multi-goal games, three multi-point games, and a pair of game-winning goals - all of which came against conference opponents. She is the first Wildcat player in program history to receive an individual conference postseason award.

McGill received MIAC Coach of the Year honors for the third time in her career and second consecutive season after guiding the Tommies to a 9-1-1 record in conference play in addition to winning regular season and playoff titles for the second year in a row. She has led St. Thomas to four straight NCAA Tournament berths and the Tommies have not lost in 13 consecutive games heading into this year's Tournament.

The MIAC also recognized All-Conference, Honorable Mention and All-Sportsmanship Teams. Augsburg forward **Ashley St. Aubin** and Gustavus goalkeeper **Ashley Becker** became the 16th and 17th players in MIAC history to become four-time All-MIAC selections in women's soccer, while St. Olaf midfielder **Claire Bash** became the sport's 40th three-time All-Conference honoree. Six women - Bethel's **Rachel Waterman**, Carleton's **Kaela Mali**, Saint Benedict's **Megan Thompson** and **Meghan Verkinderen**, St. Catherine's **Lauren Witte**, and St. Thomas' **Kate Heimer** - earned All-MIAC distinction for the second time.

The 23-player All-Conference team included ten seniors, six juniors, four sophomores, and three first-year players. Regular season co-champions Augsburg and St. Thomas led the conference with four All-MIAC selections each, followed by Bethel with three, and Carleton, Saint Benedict, St. Catherine, and St. Olaf with two apiece. Gustavus, Hamline, Macalester, and Saint Mary's all had one All-MIAC honoree. An additional 22 players were recognized as Honorable Mention.

As part of a Conference-wide sportsmanship initiative, the MIAC also announced the 14th annual All-MIAC Sportsmanship team for women's soccer. Members of the All-MIAC Sportsmanship team are selected by their coaches and teammates as individuals who demonstrate ideals of positive sportsmanship both on and off the field of competition.



2019 MIAC WOMEN'S SOCCER AWARDS

Offensive Player of the Year: Megan Thompson, Saint Benedict (Jr. | Inver Grove Heights, Minn. | Holy Angels)

Defensive Player of the Year: Emily Chapman, Augsburg (Sr. | Elburn, Ill. | Kaneland)

Rookie of the Year: Amanda Elton, St. Catherine (Fy. | Cottage Grove, Minn. | Park)

Coach of the Year: Sheila McGill, St. Thomas (13th Season)

2019 MIAC Women's Soccer All-Conference Team

Position	Name	Institution	Class	Hometown High School	Previous Selections
M	Molly Adams	Macalester	Sr.	Concord, Mass. Carlisle	2018 (HM)
F	Tessa Anderson	St. Olaf	Fy.	Albuquerque, N.M Albuquerque Academy	--
M	Claire Bash	St. Olaf	Sr.	Long Lake, Minn. Orono	2017 2019
GK	Ashley Becker	Gustavus	Sr.	Farmington, Minn.	2015 2016 2017
M	Paige Cater	St. Thomas	Jr.	Woodbury, Minn. Tartan	--
GK	Emily Chapman	Augsburg	Sr.	Elburn, Ill. Kaneland	--
D	Molly Conners	Augsburg	So.	Stillwater, Minn.	2017
F/M	Gabriela Diaz	Hamline	Sr.	St. Paul, Minn. St. Croix Lutheran	--
F	Amanda Elton	St. Catherine	Fy.	Cottage Grove, Minn. Park	--
F	Gabriela Encarnacion	Augsburg	Sr.	Bel Air, Md.	2018 (HM)
M	Ellie Eskierka	St. Thomas	Jr.	Circle Pines, Minn. Centennial	--
M	Kate Heimer	St. Thomas	Jr.	Albertville, Minn. Rogers	2018
D	Kaela Mali	Carleton	Jr.	Bloomfield, Mich. Cranbrook Kingswood	2018
F/M	Jordyn Matthews	Saint Mary's	So.	Seattle, Wash. West Seattle	--
GK	Kaylee Peterson	Bethel	Sr.	Hugo, Minn. White Bear Lake	--
D	Sierra Smith	Bethel	Sr.	Blaine, Minn. Mounds View	2017 (HM)
F/M	Ashley St. Aubin	Augsburg	Sr.	Burnsville, Minn.	2016 2017 2018
F	Megan Thompson	Saint Benedict	Jr.	Inver Grove Heights, Minn. Holy Angels	--
M	Rainey Tilley	Carleton	Fy.	South Pasadena, Calif.	--
F	Tessa Trettel	St. Thomas	Jr.	Lino Lakes, Minn. Centennial	--
D	Meghan Verkinderen	Saint Benedict	Sr.	Eden Prairie, Minn.	2017 2018 (HM)
C/M	Rachel Waterman	Bethel	So.	Burnsville, Minn.	2018
F	Lauren Witte	St. Catherine	So.	Lakeville, Minn. North	2018

2019 MIAC Women's Soccer Honorable Mention

Position	Name	Institution	Class	Hometown High School	Previous Selections
M	Kendall Archer	Saint Mary's	Jr.	Draper, Utah Corner Canyon	2017
F	Katie Ashpole	Gustavus	Jr.	Chaska, Minn.	--
F/M	Alice Bieda	Macalester	So.	Downers Grove, Ill. North	--
F	Sofia Campbell	St. Catherine	So.	St. Paul, Minn. Nova Classical Academy	2018
GK	Brynne Davis	St. Olaf	Jr	Golden, Colo. Lakewood	--
F	Carolyn Eckstein	Macalester	So.	Bryn Mawr, Pa. Radnor	--
M	Lauren Johnson	Gustavus	Jr.	Woodbury, Minn. East Ridge	2018
M/D	Taylor Johnson	St. Catherine	So.	Cottage Grove, Minn. Park	--
D	Sophie Kendall	Bethel	Jr.	Andover, Minn. Legacy Christian	--
D	Julia Kenney	Carleton	Sr.	Evanston, Ill.	--

D	Megan King	Gustavus	Fy.	Savage, Minn. Visitation	--
M	Elizabeth Luotto	St. Thomas	Sr.	Sunnyvale, Calif. Fremont	--
D/M	Jen Masello	Augsburg	So.	Darien, Ill. Downers Grove South	--
D	Rachel Nemer	Concordia	Jr.	Fargo, N.D. Davies	2018 (HM)
F	Ashlee Olson	Hamline	Jr.	Eyota, Minn. Dover-Eyota	--
M/D	Jada Olson	Augsburg	Sr.	Duluth, Minn. East	2017 (HM) 2018
GK	Sarah Pasternak	St. Thomas	Jr.	Brookfield, Wis. Central	--
M	Cate Patterson	Carleton	Fy.	Racine, Wis. Prairie School	--
M	Sophia Robinson	Concordia	Fy.	Bozeman, Mont.	--
M	Alyssa Siljendahl	St. Catherine	Sr.	Duluth, Minn. Hermantown	--
M	Nicole Thompson	Saint Mary's	Fy.	Riverside, Calif. Martin Luther King	--
D	Abby Worthington	Saint Benedict	Jr.	Maple Grove, Minn.	--

2019 MIAC Women's Soccer Sportsmanship Team

Position	Name	Institution	Class	Hometown High School	
F/M	Olivia House	Augsburg	Sr.	Richfield, Minn.	
GK	Kaylee Peterson	Bethel	Sr.	Hugo, Minn. White Bear Lake	
GK	Anna Roethler	Carleton	Jr.	St. Louis Park, Minn.	
M	Sophia Robinson	Concordia	Fy.	Bozeman, Mont.	
D	Maggie Leininger	Gustavus	Sr.	Plymouth, Minn. Wayzata	
F/M	Gabriela Diaz	Hamline	Sr.	St. Paul, Minn. St. Croix Lutheran	
F/M	Elizabeth Han	Macalester	Sr.	Seattle, Wash. Nathan Hale	
D	Abby Welsch	Saint Benedict	Sr.	Savage, Minn. Holy Angels	
D	Shelly Wing	Saint Mary's	Sr.	Verona, Wis.	
M	Alyssa Siljendahl	St. Catherine	Sr.	Duluth, Minn. Hermantown	
M	Grace Maxwell	St. Olaf	So.	Eden Prairie, Minn.	
D	Alexa Oldenkamp	St. Thomas	So.	Eden Prairie, Minn.	