

MIAC announces 2021 Women's Soccer awards

Posted: Nov 10, 2021

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. – With the 2021 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 St. Catherine forward **Amanda Elton** as the league's Offensive Player of the Year, while Saint Mary's goalkeeper **Alexis Nguyen** was named Defensive Player of the Year. Augsburg midfielder **Jaelyn Nedelcoff** was selected Rookie of the Year and St. Catherine head coach **Jesse Campos** was honored by his peers as Coach of the Year.

Elton (Jr. | Cottage Grove, Minn. | Park) was named the MIAC Women's Soccer Offensive Player of the Year after leading the conference in goals (8) and points (19) in league games in 2021. Elton punched in the game-winning goal in five of the Wildcats' nine conference wins this fall and tallied either a goal or an assist in eight of eleven league contests. Elton became the first St. Catherine player in program history to receive postseason conference individual honors when she won the MIAC Rookie of the Year award in 2019 and is now the fourth former Rookie of the Year winner to go on to win an Offensive or Defensive Player of the Year award.

Nguyen (Jr. | West Corvina, Calif. | Diamond Bar) received MIAC Defensive Player of the Year honors after posting a league-best 0.929 save percentage in conference games this season. Nguyen had a MIAC-best five shutouts and allowed just three goals in league play. With her selection, she becomes the second Cardinal ever - and the first since Kristen Kluge in 1991 - to receive postseason MIAC individual honors in women's soccer.

Nedelcoff (Fy. | Oregon, Wis.) locked up MIAC Rookie of the Year honors after scoring four goals in MIAC play - fifth-most among all conference scorers this season. The true first-year midfielder came on strong during the Auggies' playoff push, tallying three goals and two assists in the final four games of the regular season. She is the second Augsburg player to be named MIAC Women's Soccer Rookie of the Year, joining 2016 recipient Ashley St. Aubin.

Campos received MIAC Coach of the Year honors for the second time after guiding the Wildcats to both regular-season and Playoff championships. St. Catherine won its first-ever MIAC regular-season women's soccer championship in 2021 and, after claiming the MIAC Playoff championship, will host an NCAA regional for the first time ever. St. Kate's lost just one conference contest this fall and led all MIAC teams with 24 goals scored in league play.

The MIAC also recognized All-Conference, Honorable Mention, and All-Sportsmanship Teams. St. Catherine senior forward **Lauren Witte** became one of just 55 women in MIAC history to earn All-Conference honors at least three times when she picked up her third straight All-MIAC nod. Teammate **Amanda Elton**, along with Saint Mary's **Jordyn Matthews**, and St. Olaf's **Tessa Anderson** were repeat All-Conference selections, while another Wildcat - **Sofia Campbell** - also earned All-Conference honors for the second time, having previously been recognized in 2018 and picking up honorable mention distinction in 2019. Augsburg's **Jen Masello**, Carleton's **Cate Patterson**, and Gustavus' **Katie Ashpole** were all honorable mention picks in 2019 and moved up to All-Conference in 2021.

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

As part of a Conference-wide sportsmanship initiative, the MIAC also announced the 15th 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.



2021 MIAC Women's Soccer Awards

2021 MIAC Women's Soccer Offensive Player of the Year

Position	Name	Institution	Class	Hometown High School	Previous Selections
F	Amanda Elton	St. Catherine	Jr.	Cottage Grove, Minn. Park	--

2021 MIAC Women's Soccer Defensive Player of the Year

Position	Name	Institution	Class	Hometown High School	Previous Selections
GK	Alexis Nguyen	Saint Mary's	Jr.	West Corvina, Calif. Diamond Bar	--
2021 MIAC Women's Soccer Rookie of the Year					
Position	Name	Institution	Class	Hometown High School	
M	Jaelyn Nedelcoff	Augsburg	Fy.	Oregon, Wis.	
2021 MIAC Women's Soccer Coach of the Year					
Name		Institution	Previous Selections		
Jesse Campos		St. Catherine	2017		

2021 MIAC Women's Soccer All-Conference Team

Position	Name	Institution	Class	Hometown High School	Previous Selections
F	Tessa Anderson	St. Olaf	Jr.	Albuquerque, N.M Albuquerque Academy	2019
D	Tessah Anderson	Bethel	Sr.	St. Paul, Minn. White Bear Lake	--
F	Katie Ashpole	Gustavus	Sr.	Chaska, Minn.	2019 (HM)
F	Jennifer Bobaric	Augsburg	Jr.	Andover, Minn.	--
F	Sofia Campbell	St. Catherine	Sr.	St. Paul, Minn. Nova Classical Academy	2018 2019 (HM)
F	Page Cocchiarella	Gustavus	Sr.	Owatonna, Minn.	--
F	Amanda Elton	St. Catherine	Jr.	Cottage Grove, Minn. Park	2019
M	Haddy Falkman	Saint Mary's	Jr.	Waconia, Minn.	--
F	Morgan Friday	St. Scholastica	Sr.	Duluth, Minn. Shattuck-St. Mary's	--
F	Lily Hurtubise	Carleton	Sr.	Port Huron, Mich.	--
D	Jen Masello	Augsburg	Sr.	Darien, Ill. Downers Grove South	2019 (HM)
F	Jordyn Matthews	Saint Mary's	Sr.	Seattle, Wash. West Seattle	2019
M	Chloe Miller	Saint Benedict	Jr.	Eagan, Minn.	--
D	Livi Novello	Macalester	So.	East Lansing, Mich.	--
GK	Alexis Nguyen	Saint Mary's	Jr.	West Corvina, Calif. Diamond Bar	--
D	Sophia O'Neil	Saint Mary's	Jr.	South Jordan, Utah Bingham	--
M	Cate Patterson	Carleton	Jr.	Racine, Wis. Prairie School	2019 (HM)
GK	Kate Praetz	St. Catherine	So.	Bolingbrook, Ill.	--
D	Tylar Sayles	Hamline	Jr.	Woodbury, Minn.	--
F	Roxy Veldman	Saint Benedict	Sr.	South St. Paul, Minn.	--
F	Lauren Witte	St. Catherine	Sr.	Lakeville, Minn. North	2018 2019
M	Ella Young	Saint Benedict	So.	Hudson, Wis.	--

2021 MIAC Women's Soccer Honorable Mention

Position	Name	Institution	Class	Hometown High School	Previous Selections
D	Hannah Conner	Macalester	Sr.	Madison, Wis. West	--
D	Molly Connors	Augsburg	Sr.	Stillwater, Minn.	2019
D	Mae Guetschow	St. Olaf	Jr.	St. Paul, Minn. Central	--

GK	Dana Gustafson	Macalester	Sr.	Ames, Iowa	--
M	Sarah Hamilton	Macalester	Jr.	Chanhassen, Minn. Minnetonka	--
D	Ashley Hansen	Bethel	So.	Moorhead, Minn. Park Christian	--
M	Alexa Ickert	St. Scholastica	Sr.	Minnetrista, Minn. Waconia	--
M	Taylor Johnson	St. Catherine	Sr.	Cottage Grove, Minn. Park	2019 (HM)
D	Megan King	Gustavus	Jr.	Savage, Minn. Visitation	2019 (HM)
M	Kendra Lingman	St. Catherine	Fy.	Elk River, Minn.	--
M	Grace Maxwell	St. Olaf	Sr.	Eden Prairie, Minn.	--
M	Ana Ortiz	Augsburg	Sr.	Waterloo, Iowa Columbus Catholic	--
M	Annette Shumway	Carleton	Sr.	Arlington, Va. Yorktown	--
D	Abby Swanda	Bethel	So.	Edina, Minn.	--
F	Rachel Rehnelt	Gustavus	Sr.	Albert Lea, Minn.	--
D	Sophia Robinson	Concordia	Jr.	Bozeman, Mont.	2019 (HM)
F	Cailey Schmitt	Hamline	Jr.	Centennial, Colo. Heritage	--
M	Lauren Tschider	Concordia	Sr.	Detroit Lakes, Minn.	--
D	Thea Traw	Carleton	Fy.	Portland, Ore. Catlin Gable	--
D	Maya Wachter	Saint Mary's	Fy.	Dubuque, Iowa Wahlert Catholic	--
M	Abby Willenbring	Saint Benedict	So.	Lino Lakes, Minn. Centennial	--
D	Hunter Zamzow	St. Scholastica	Jr.	Duluth, Minn. Shattuck-St. Mary's	--

2021 MIAC Women's Soccer Sportsmanship Team

Position	Name	Institution	Class	Hometown High School	
M	Ana Ortiz	Augsburg	Sr.	Waterloo, Iowa Columbus Catholic	
D	Ashley Hansen	Bethel	So.	Moorhead, Minn. Park Christian	
D	Brie Forster	Carleton	Sr.	Northfield, Minn.	
F	Samantha Dalsin	Concordia	Sr.	Eden Prairie, Minn. Holy Family	
M	Lydia Arens	Gustavus	Sr.	Princeton, Minn.	
GK	Lauren Sicora	Hamline	Sr.	Centerville, Minn. Centennial	
M	Celia Lesmeister	Macalester	Jr.	Decorah, Iowa	
M	Clara Noack	Saint Benedict	Sr.	Northfield, Minn.	
D	Dara Kaiser	Saint Mary's	Sr.	Bozeman, Mont.	
D	Amora Valencia	St. Catherine	Sr.	Hemet, Calif. Nuvview Bridge Early College	
M	Grace Maxwell	St. Olaf	Sr.	Eden Prairie, Minn.	
M	Alexa Ickert	St. Scholastica	Sr.	Minnetrista, Minn. Waconia	