

Chris Evert honoree Alisa Hall leads MIAC Women's Tennis Awards

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BLOOMINGTON, Minn. -- The 2016 Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) women's tennis season will be remembered as one of the most balanced and exciting campaigns in conference history and, Tuesday, the top performers from an unforgettable season were recognized with the announcement of the 2016 MIAC Women's Tennis Award.

St. Olaf senior Alisa Hall was awarded the conference's top honor for her performance on and off the court, as she was named the winner of the 2016 MIAC Chris Evert Award. Bethel Head Coach Drew Fernelius was also recognized by his peers with the 2016 MIAC Women's Tennis Coach-of-the-Year award in honor of his role in the Royals' historic season. In addition, the 2016 MIAC All-Conference Singles and Doubles teams were announced, as was the All-MIAC Sportsmanship Team.



Hall (Sr., Lakeville, Minn. / North) was an extremely deserving selection for the Chris Evert Award based on her work on and off the court. The award annually recognizes a senior tennis student-athlete with outstanding sportsmanship and exemplary athletic, academic and humanitarian accomplishments. Hall is a Nursing major who will graduate in May, and will begin her career as a Registered Nurse next fall. Ole Head Coach Scott Nesbit cited her sportsmanship and character among her other exemplary qualities that made her deserving of the Evert Award.

On the court, Hall's play was also certainly worthy of the MIAC's top honor. From the top spot in St. Olaf's lineup, she was a combined 21-8 this season (12-3 doubles, 9-5 singles) with an even better mark in conference play. She earned both MIAC Singles and Doubles All-Conference honors after going 6-3 at No. 1 singles and 8-2 at No. 1 doubles as a senior. It marked her fourth-straight season earning All-MIAC Singles honors, and the Doubles award was the second of her career. Hall led St. Olaf to a 10-5 overall record, a 7-3 MIAC mark, and a trip to the MIAC Playoff semifinals.

Fernelius received his first MIAC Coach-of-the-Year honor in his fourth season leading the Royals thanks to his team's record-breaking campaign. Bethel finished the season with a 19-5 record, which set a new program record for wins in a season. His team was picked to finish seventh in the Preseason Coaches' Poll, but the Royals outperformed that expectation with a 6-4 record, a fifth-place finish and a spot in the MIAC Playoffs.

Bethel went a perfect 13-0 in regular season nonconference matches this season and had three separate winning streaks where they won five, six and eight matches in a row. All five of Bethel's losses - four in the regular season and one in the MIAC Playoffs - came at the hands of the four teams ahead of the Royals in the conference standings. Fernelius coached two players to All-MIAC Singles honors in 2016.

The MIAC Women's Tennis All-Conference Singles and Doubles teams were determined using a point system for conference wins at each position, with the top 18 recognized for both singles and doubles including ties. In all, there were 19 players recognized on each team in 2016. This season, there were 14 student-athletes that earned both singles and doubles honors.

The Singles Team includes eight seniors, three juniors, five sophomores and three first-year players. MIAC Playoff champion Gustavus led the way with five players named to the All-Conference Singles Team. St. Thomas was next with four players honored, St. Olaf had three, Carleton, Bethel and St. Catherine each had two players recognized and one player from Saint Mary's was named All-Conference in singles play.

The Doubles Team features 10 seniors, four juniors, four sophomores and one first-year player. The All-Conference Doubles Team was heavily populated with players from the three teams that shared the regular-season conference title, as St. Thomas placed six players on the team, Gustavus had five and Carleton had three. St. Olaf also had three players honored and a pair of St. Catherine student-athletes also earned the distinction.

As part of a conference-wide sportsmanship initiative, the MIAC announced the 10th annual All-MIAC Sportsmanship team for women's tennis. 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.

2016 MIAC WOMEN'S TENNIS AWARDS

Chris Evert Award: Alisa Hall, St. Olaf (Sr., Lakeville, Minn. / North)

Coach-of-the-Year: Drew Fernelius, Bethel (4th season)

2016 MIAC WOMEN'S TENNIS ALL-CONFERENCE SINGLES TEAM

Name	School	Year	Hometown/Previous School
Ally Baker	Gustavus	So.	Rosemount, Minn.
Paige Becher	St. Thomas	Jr.	Rochester, Minn. / Mayo
Kayla Becich	Carleton	Sr.	Bradfordwoods, Pa. / North Allegheny
Sid Dirks	Gustavus	Sr.	St. Peter, Minn.
Alisa Hall	St. Olaf	Sr.	Lakeville, Minn. / North
Briana Hartmann	Gustavus	Fy.	Owatonna, Minn.
Shelby Henderson	St. Thomas	Sr.	Lakeville, Minn. / South
Mattie Kidder	Bethel	So.	New Richmond, Wis.
Alicia Knoll	St. Catherine	Jr.	Waseca, Minn.
Maya MacGibbon	St. Olaf	Sr.	Minnetonka, Minn.
Bridget Noack	St. Thomas	Sr.	Hartland, Wis. / Brookfield East
Sydney Parkinson	Bethel	Fy.	Lakeville, Minn.
Mikinzee Salo	St. Catherine	Sr.	Brainerd, Minn.
Michaela Schulz	Gustavus	Jr.	Elk River, Minn.
Laura Sunday	Saint Mary's	Fy.	West St. Paul, Minn. / South St. Paul
Lizzy Stanczyk	Gustavus	Sr.	Plymouth, Wis.
Danielle Vasiliev	Carleton	So.	Lincolnshire, Ill. / Stevenson
Jenna Zimmerman	St. Thomas	So.	Racine, Wis. / St. Catherines
Margaret Zimmerman	St. Olaf	So.	Racine, Wis. / Prairie School

2016 MIAC WOMEN'S TENNIS ALL-CONFERENCE DOUBLES TEAM

Name	School	Year	Hometown/Previous School
Ally Baker	Gustavus	So.	Rosemount, Minn.
Caitlin Bakke	St. Thomas	So.	Bismarck, N.D. / St. Mary's Central
Paige Becher	St. Thomas	Jr.	Rochester, Minn. / Mayo
Kayla Becich	Carleton	Sr.	Bradfordwoods, Pa. / North Allgheny
Sid Dirks	Gustavus	Sr.	St. Peter, Minn.
Alisa Hall	St. Olaf	Sr.	Lakeville, Minn. / North
Briana Hartmann	Gustavus	Fy.	Owatonna, Minn.
Shelby Henderson	St. Thomas	Sr.	Lakeville, Minn. / South
Lauren Keller	St. Thomas	Jr.	Madison, Wis. / Edgewood
Angie Lorenzen	St. Catherine	Sr.	Mitchell, S.D.
Maya MacGibbon	St. Olaf	Sr.	Minnetonka, Minn.
Bridget Noack	St. Thomas	Sr.	Hartland, Wis. / Brookfield East
Mikinzee Salo	St. Catherine	Sr.	Brainerd, Minn.
Michaela Schulz	Gustavus	Jr.	Elk River, Minn.
Caitlin Shea	Carleton	Jr.	Joliet, Ill. / Joliet Township West
Lizzy Stanczyk	Gustavus	Sr.	Plymouth, Wis.
Joyce Yu	Carleton	Sr.	Taipei, Taiwan / Taipei American School
Jenna Zimmerman	St. Thomas	So.	Racine, Wis. / St. Catherines
Margaret Zimmerman	St. Olaf	So.	Racine, Wis. / Prairie School

2016 WOMEN'S TENNIS ALL-MIAC SPORTSMANSHIP TEAM

Bethel - Anna Browning (So., Aitkin, Minn.)
 Carleton - Grace Davis (Sr., Neenah, Wis.)
 Concordia - Lisa Neumann (Fy., Annandale, Minn.)
 Gustavus - Kaity Johnson (Sr., Lichtfield, Minn.)
 Hamline - Madeline Muotka (Fy., Waseca, Minn.)
 Macalester - Rachel Seidner (Sr., San Antonio, Texas / International School of the Americas)
 Saint Benedict -Taylor Kraemer (So., Osakis, Minn.)
 St. Catherine - Ruth Rike (Fy., Pine City, Minn.)
 Saint Mary's - Megan Vandenberg (Jr., De Pere, Wis. / Notre Dame Academy)
 St. Olaf - Bailey Kent (Sr., Mahtomedi, Minn.)
 St. Thomas - Jenna Zimmerman (So., Racine, Wis. / St. Catherines)

