

2014 MIAC Women's Tennis Preview and Preseason Coaches' Poll

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2014 MIAC Women's Tennis Conference Preview

ST. PAUL, Minn. -- How times have changed. For two decades Gustavus ruled the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) women's tennis landscape. However, the last two seasons has produced two new regular-season champions in Carleton (2012) and St. Catherine (2013) and now there is a parity at the top of the standings that should make 2014 one of the conference's most exciting seasons to date.

Any of four contenders - the Gusties, Knights, Wildcats and St. Thomas - could all be considered the 2014 favorite in their own respect, which should make the conference competition both fierce and exciting as teams battle for the MIAC title and the six conference Playoff spots.

A year ago, St. Catherine emerged with its first-ever MIAC women's tennis championship behind a perfect 10-0 MIAC record, and a near-perfect 15-2 overall mark under MIAC Coach-of-the-Year Ben Hageseth. A year after dethroning Gustavus, Carleton came in second with a 9-1 conference record in the regular season and won its second-straight MIAC Playoff title en route to the NCAA Division III Tournament and a 16-8 overall record. The Gusties came in third at 8-2 in MIAC play (13-8 overall) and St. Thomas was fourth at 7-3 (14-6 overall). The Tommies took down SCU in the MIAC Playoff semifinals and faced Carleton in the championship match.

St. Olaf also finished above .500 in MIAC play a year ago at 6-4 (9-9 overall) to round out the top five of the conference standings, and Bethel was .500 (9-9 overall, 5-5 MIAC) in Head Coach Drew Fernelius' first season to join the Oles in the MIAC Playoffs. Saint Benedict (4-6 MIAC, 11-8 overall) finished above .500 overall, and missed a trip to the postseason by one game, with a seventh-place conference finish.

Macalester was 3-7 in conference play and 5-12 overall to occupy the No. 8 spot in the 2013 MIAC standings. Saint Mary's was tremendous in nonconference play, going 8-2 outside the league to finish 10-10 overall (2-8 MIAC). Hamline finished in 10th place (1-9 MIAC, 4-12 overall) and Concordia (0-10 MIAC, 0-16 overall) finished out the conference standings.

The parity that emerged over the past two seasons should get even better in 2013. Will St. Catherine defend its conference title? Did Carleton's postseason run prove the Knights are ready to re-claim the title? Will Gustavus end its two-year title drought and get back on top? Or will St. Thomas continue its progression all the way to the top of the standings? Can St. Olaf, Bethel or another contender join the title race as well? Finding out the answers to all these big questions should result in unforgettable matches and a banner season of women's tennis in the MIAC.

CARLETON EDGES TOMMIES ATOP THE POLL

The same parity unearthed on the court has also found its way into the preseason predictions, as the 2014 MIAC Women's Tennis Preseason Coaches' Poll results point towards a closely-contested season. The two teams that battled for the MIAC Playoff title a year ago received the 11 first-place votes and headline the poll, with Carleton selected to win its second title in three years on the strength of seven first-place votes and 97 points. However, St. Thomas is predicted to be in the mix for the title as well, with four first-place votes and 91 points to finish second in the poll.

Defending champion St. Catherine is expected to have another great season, as is Gustavus, with the Wildcats edging the Gusties for third place in the poll by just four points, 79-75. Fifth-place St. Olaf wasn't far behind that duo, receiving 67 points to round out the top five, and Saint Benedict and its 55 points complete the coaches' predictions for the six-team MIAC Playoff field.

Bethel received 44 points in the poll and is picked to finish just outside the postseason in seventh place. Macalester came in eighth with 37 points, with Saint Mary's just seven points back in ninth with a total of 30 for the Cardinals. Hamline (18 points) edged Concordia (12 points) by just six points to round out the top 10, as the Cobbers finished out the preseason predictions in 11th.

WHAT'S NEW?

There is one major change to the MIAC tennis landscape for 2014 - a new format for the MIAC Tennis Playoffs. Instead of a two-day tournament held on Gustavus' home courts, the tournament will now be a high-seed host event spread out over five days. The change will allow the top seeds to earn the right to host postseason matches on campus (or on their home courts), along with a day of rest between matches to benefit the student-athletes' well-being.

On the coaching front, there is one new face in the MIAC. Concordia hired Steve Futchko in the offseason to coach both the Cobber women and men. Prior to his new gig in Moorhead, Futchko served as the Director of Tennis for the Upland (Calif.) Tennis Club. Ironically, he was a standout player for Concordia University in Irvine, Calif.



Scott Nesbit remains the dean of MIAC women's tennis coaches, as he enters his 26th season coaching the St. Olaf women. Gustavus' Jon Carlson is starting his 24th season leading the Gusties. Terry Peck is beginning his 19th season at St. Thomas, and Saint Mary's Jeff Halberg is entering his 16th season leading the Cardinal women.

WHO'S BACK?

The Knights graduated All-America doubles player Bridget Doyle, but Head Coach Luciano Battaglini has plenty of talent back as Carleton tries to return to the top of the heap in the MIAC. Senior Anne Lombardi will try to cap her career with her fourth-straight All-MIAC singles and doubles honors, sophomore Mikayla Becich was an All-MIAC player and All-American in doubles in 2013, and senior Molly Hemes has earned multiple All-Conference honors in her career.

St. Thomas also brings back an exceptional lineup, hungry for more success after the trip to the MIAC Playoff finals. Junior Kara Lefsrud will be counted on to lead Peck's 2014 squad, and a pair of sophomores - Shelby Henderson and Bridget Noack - are back and ready to build on the success they found as first-year players in the Tommies' lineup.

St. Catherine was a tremendous story in 2013, rising all the way to the conference championship, and most of the Wildcats' lineup is back. Hageseth graduated MIAC Chris Evert Award winner Michaela Burroughs, but star senior Victoria Bravo and juniors Maria Koval and Kylie Ketcho will keep SCU in contention for the conference title again in 2014.

Gustavus graduated a pair of talented seniors in Heather Annis and Mallory Shellum, but Carlson has a trio of talented players back to make the 2014 Gusties a possibility to return to their championship ways. Junior Laurel Krebsbach is one of the MIAC's best and fellow junior Annie Mahoney is also back to help lead the way. Sidney Dirks was great in her college debut, and could be poised for even more success as a sophomore.

St. Olaf will again be in the MIAC Playoff hunt in Nesbit's 26th season. Alisa Hall emerged as the Oles' No. 1 singles player as a rookie and is ready to lead as a sophomore, and junior Kristi Kroker is also back to bolster the St. Olaf lineup. Saint Benedict's lineup returns largely intact, and Head Coach Scott Larsen hopes senior Jamie Hoffman, junior Ellie Black and sophomore Daley Rupar will be able to lead the Blazers back to the MIAC Playoffs after just missing out a year ago.

Fernelius will have to replace three key contributors from Bethel's 2013 Playoff run, but No. 1 singles/doubles star Abby Edin is back, along with fellow senior Amanda Johnson and junior Kristin Vivian to keep the Royals in contention for another trip to the postseason. Macalester graduated Paige Schaefer and her 39 career singles wins, but senior Carmen Whitehead and juniors Katelyn Glenna and Gabby Queenan are back to lead Head Coach Jason Muhl's talented, veteran lineup.

Saint Mary's hopes to build on last year's 10-win campaign, with senior Grace Zachman, junior Lindsey Reinisch and sophomore Katie Krull all back to lead the way. Hamline has three of its top four players back, as Head Coach Jon Henning hopes senior Carissa Wallerich and sophomores Cassie Rammage and Emily Butler can lead the Pipers into Playoff contention. Futchko will have a young team in his Cobber debut, but junior Kaitlyn Davies and sophomore Morgan Sawatzke will be equipped to lead the way after leading the team in singles victories in 2013.

CIRCLE THESE DATES

The first big MIAC women's tennis date arrived Jan. 29, as the 2014 season officially opened with eight of the conference's teams making their season debuts over the season's first four days. The MIAC season has also already begun, as Carleton defeated Saint Mary's 8-1 on Saturday (Feb. 1) to kick off the conference schedule.

The majority of the MIAC schedule will be played in April, with the regular season concluding on Sunday, April 27. The new-look MIAC women's tennis playoffs will begin with two quarterfinal matches on April 29. The two winners will advance to take on the No. 1 and 2 seeds in the semifinals on May 1, and the championship match will be played on the home court of the highest remaining seed on Saturday, May 3.

There are a few important early-season dates for teams hoping to show marked improvement in 2014. Concordia opens its season and Futchko makes his debut with a home MIAC match against Hamline Feb. 8 at 2:30 p.m. Hamline will square off against Saint Mary's on March 15 at 10:30 a.m. at the University of Minnesota's Baseline Tennis Center, and the Cardinals will face the Cobbers on the same court a day later, also at 10:30 a.m., to complete a crucial round-robin in the MIAC standings.

Many of the matches that will decide the conference championship and MIAC Playoff seeds will happen in a 10-day span in early April. Saint Benedict travels to St. Olaf for a 10:30 a.m. match on April 5 that could have major seeding or postseason bid implications. The MIAC Playoff championship rematch will take place on April 12 when St Thomas visits for Carleton for a 1 p.m. match that will be crucial to both teams' title hopes. Gustavus travels to St. Catherine the following day for another major MIAC showdown at 4 p.m., and Macalester will host Bethel on April 15 at 5:30 p.m. in a big match for teams with postseason aspirations.

A CLOSER LOOK

The rest of the 2014 MIAC Women's Tennis Preview contains complete results from the 2014 Preseason Coaches' Poll, MIAC Playoff details, helpful links and a preview for each team submitted by their sports information director. The new MIAC web site - www.miacathletics.com - will be an outstanding source for MIAC women's tennis news, schedules, scores, stats and more throughout the 2014 season.

Visit the [MIAC scoreboard](#) on game days to follow all the action, and download the [MIAC mobile app](#) to have all the information with you anywhere you travel. Also, connect to the conference on its [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#) pages for updates and interaction all season long.

2014 MIAC Women's Tennis Preseason Coaches' Poll

Coaches voted for every team in the conference except their own team. Points were assigned for each vote (10 for first, nine 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.

2014 MIAC Women's Tennis Preseason Coaches' Poll

| Rank | Institution | Total |
|-------------|--------------------|--------------|
| 1 | Carleton (7) | 97 |
| 2 | St. Thomas (4) | 91 |
| 3 | St. Catherine | 79 |
| 4 | Gustavus | 75 |
| 5 | St. Olaf | 67 |
| 6 | Saint Benedict | 55 |
| 7 | Bethel | 44 |
| 8 | Macalester | 37 |
| 9 | Saint Mary's | 30 |
| 10 | Hamline | 18 |
| 11 | Concordia | 12 |

2014 MIAC Women's Tennis Playoffs

The 2014 MIAC Tennis Playoffs received quite a makeover in the offseason. Instead of a two-day, single-site tournament, the Playoffs will now be spread out over five days with the top seeds hosting each round. The field will include the top six teams in the conference standings, squaring off in a single-elimination tournament. Teams seeded No. 3 through No. 6 will square off on April 29 in the quarterfinals, with the winners meeting the top two seeds in the semifinals on May 1. The championship match will be held May 3 on the home court of the top remaining seed. The winner will receive the MIAC's automatic bid to the 2014 NCAA Division III Women's Tennis Tournament.

| [MIAC Women's Tennis Playoffs Websites](#) | [2013](#) | [2014](#) |

MIAC Women's Tennis Links

| [2014 MIAC Schedule](#) | [2013 MIAC Statistics](#) | [MIAC Recordbook](#) | [MIAC Archives](#) |

MIAC Team-by-Team Previews

| [BU](#) | [CAR](#) | [CON](#) | [GAC](#) | [HU](#) | [MAC](#) | [CSB](#) | [SCU](#) | [SMU](#) | [STO](#) | [UST](#) |

BETHEL | [Royals' women's tennis home page](#) |



Head coach

- Drew Fernelius (Second season)

A Year Ago

- 5-5 MIAC (Sixth place) | 9-9 Overall

In the 2013 Postseason

- Lost 5-0 to Gustavus in first round of MIAC playoffs

Top Returners

- Abby Edin (No. 1 singles/doubles, Sr. | All-Conference doubles)
- Kristin Vivian (No. 3&4 singles/No. 2 doubles, Jr. | 4-6 record at No. 3 singles in 2013)
- Amanda Johnson (No. 6 singles, Sr. | 8-7 singles record in 2013)

Key Losses

- Lisa Scheevel (No. 2 singles/No. 1 doubles | All-Conference doubles)
- Steph Brown (No. 3 singles/No. 2 doubles)
- Kayla Wheeler (No. 5 singles/No. 3 doubles)

By the Numbers

- 1: The Royals MIAC playoff appearance was the first in the history of the Bethel women's tennis program, coming under the direction of

first year head coach Drew Fernelius.

- 8: Both Abby Edin at No. 1 singles and Amanda Johnson at No. 6 singles won eight matches in 2013 and both will return for their senior seasons in 2014.
- .500: Bethel's overall record (9-9), MIAC record (5-5), overall doubles record (27-27) and MIAC doubles record (15-15) were all .500. The Royals overall singles record was just one loss shy (51-53) of also being .500.

Did You Know?

- The Royals annually take an eight or nine day trip during spring break to beautiful Orlando, Florida where they train and play six competitive matches against other teams from around the country.

Off the Court

- Senior Amanda Johnson recently passed her Minnesota Teaching Licensure Exam and will be full-time student teaching during the spring semester in addition to playing tennis for the Royals. She will be in the kindergarten classroom of Mrs. Leafblad, the mother of 2013 Bethel men's tennis graduate David Leafblad, at Madison Elementary School in Blaine.



CARLETON | [Knights' women's tennis home page](#) |

Head coach

- Luciano Battaglini (Seventh season)

A Year Ago

- 9-1 (Second place) | 16-8 Overall

In the 2013 Postseason

- MIAC Postseason Champions — defeated Gustavus 5-1 in semifinals; defeated St. Thomas 5-0 in finals
- NCAA Championships — defeated Grinnell 5-1 in first round; lost to UW-Whitewater 5-3 in second round
- Bridget Doyle/Anne Lombardi lost in first round of NCAA Doubles Championships

Top Returners

- Anne Lombardi (Sr. | Three-time All-MIAC in both singles and doubles)
- Mikayla Becich (So. | 2013 ITA All-American in doubles; 2013 All-MIAC in singles and doubles)
- Molly Hemes (Sr. | 2013 All-MIAC singles; 2012 All-MIAC in singles and doubles)

Key Losses

- Bridget Doyle (singles/doubles) | 2013 ITA All-American in doubles; four-time All-MIAC in singles and doubles; 2013 NCAA Doubles Championship Appearance)

By the Numbers

- 2: The Knights have reached the NCAA Championships the last two seasons.
- 6: Carleton had six players recognized as All-MIAC performers in 2013, most among conference schools.
- 10-0: Claire Spencer won each of her 10 MIAC singles matches last year, en route to an impressive overall record of 19-3, the most singles wins among MIAC players in 2013.

Did You Know?

- Carleton was honored as the recipients of the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) National Team Sportsmanship Award for May 2013. The monthly award goes to one men's and one women's team that has exemplified outstanding sportsmanship, character and ethical conduct in the true spirit of competition and collegiate tennis.

Off the Court

- The team was recognized as a member of the All-Academic Team by ITA for the 12th consecutive season. The award recognizes teams with a cumulative grade point average of 3.20 or higher. Carleton is the only MIAC tennis program to receive this award every year since its inception in 2002.



CONCORDIA | [Cobbers' women's tennis home page](#) |

Head coach

- Steve Futchko (First season)

A Year Ago

- 0-10 MIAC (11th place) | 0-16 Overall

Top Returners

- Kaitlyn Davies (Jr. | Team leader in singles wins in 2013)
- Morgan Sawatzke (So. | Second on the team in singles wins in 2013)

Key Losses

- Chelsie McGraw (No.1 singles player & No. 1 doubles player)
- Olivia DeLeon (No.2 singles player & No.1 doubles player)

By the Numbers

- 89: Concordia's returning players accounted for 89% of its singles wins from last year
- 7: Of the eight players on the Cobber roster this season, seven are from Minnesota

Did You Know?

- Concordia men's head coach Steve Futchko graduated from Concordia University in California.



GUSTAVUS | [Gusties' women's tennis home page](#) |

Head coach

- Jon Carlson (24th Season)

A Year Ago

- 8-2 (Third Place) | 13-8 Overall

In the 2013 Postseason

- 2013 MIAC Playoffs – Defeated Bethel (5-0) in quarterfinals, fell to Carleton (5-1) in semifinals.

Top Returners

- Laurel Krebsbach (Jr., North Oaks, Minn.) | Two-time All-MIAC singles and doubles performer (2012, 2013)... Recorded a 9-1 mark against MIAC opponents at No. 1 Singles (17-9 overall)... With partner Annie Mahoney, finished 7-1 in MIAC play at No. 1 doubles (11-7 overall).
- Annie Mahoney (Jr., Duluth, Minn.) | 2013 All-MIAC Doubles Team member... With partner Laurel Krebsbach, went 7-1 against league opponents at No. 1 doubles (11-7 overall)... Finished 7-3 in MIAC singles competition (12-13 overall).
- Sidney Dirks (So., St. Peter, Minn.) | Totaled an 8-2 record against MIAC opponents in singles, including a 4-2 record at the No. 4 position and 4-0 at No. 5 (14-9 overall)... Went 6-2 in MIAC play at No. 3 doubles with partner Maddie Lindstrom (10-9 overall).

Key Losses

- Heather Annis (Mapleton, Minn.) | 2013 All-MIAC singles and doubles performer... Went 7-3 in MIAC singles play, including a 6-2 record at the No. 2 spot and 1-1 at No. 3 (12-14 overall)... With partner Mallory Shellum, finished 8-2 in MIAC contests, including a 7-1 mark at the No. 2 position and 1-1 at No. 1 (16-10 overall).
- Mallory Shellum (St. James, Minn.) | 2013 All-MIAC singles and doubles performer... Amassed an 8-2 record in MIAC singles play (14-12 overall)... Alongside partner Heather Annis, mounted an 8-2 mark in conference play, including a 7-1 record at the No. 2 position and 1-1 at No. 1 (16-10 overall).

By the Numbers

- 4: The number of regular season conference matches the Gusties have lost since 1989. During that 25-year span, Gustavus has amassed a record of 244-4 in MIAC regular season play.
- 26: The number of MIAC titles the Gusties have won, which are the most of any team in the league.
- 3: The number of juniors and seniors combined on this year's roster. The 2014 Gustavus roster features five first-years and five sophomores compared to just two juniors and one senior.

Did You Know?

- Former Gustavus women's tennis player Megan Gaard was named the MIAC's Assistant Director in August of 2013. Megan joined the MIAC staff in a two-year position funded by the NCAA Division III Women and Ethnic Minority Internship Grant and is responsible for wide range of administrative tasks across the conference. As a Gustie, Gaard finished her career with a singles record of 77-44 and a doubles record of 103-38.

Off the Court

- The Gustavus Adolphus women's tennis team was one of 82 NCAA Division III teams from across the country to earn All-Academic Team honors from the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA). In addition, six players on last year's squad were honored for their individual academic excellence, including Bailey Abeyesekera, Heather Annis, Maddie Lindstrom, Annie Mahoney, Amelia Napiorkowski, and Mallory Shellum.



HAMLIN | [Pipers' women's tennis home page](#) |

Head coach

- Jon Henning (Seventh season)

A Year Ago

- 1-9 MIAC (10th place) | 4-12 Overall

Top Returners

- Emily Butler (So., No. 4 Singles, Doubles)
- Cassie Rammage (So., No. 2 Singles, No. 1-2 Doubles)
- Carissa Wallerich (Sr., No. 1 Singles, No. 1 Doubles)

Key Losses

- Rachel Barnes (No. 3 Singles, 1-2 Doubles, most wins of any HU player last year)

By the Numbers

- 5: Freshman on 2014 team – biggest recruiting ever for Henning
- 10: players returning who participated in matches last year
- 15: players on 2014 roster – largest roster ever

Did You Know?

- The women's team will play their first doubleheader ever on March 1 when they face UM-Crookston and Bethany Lutheran

Off the Court

- The women's team earned ITA Academic All-American status for the fourth year in 2013.
-

MACALESTER | [Scots' women's tennis home page](#) |



Head coach

- Jason Muhl (Seventh season)

A Year Ago

- 3-7 MIAC (Eighth place) | 5-12 Overall

Top Returners

- Katelyn Glenna (Jr., 5-10 last year, including 5-8 at No. 2 singles; 3-4 in MIAC at No. 1 doubles)
- Carmen Whitehead (Sr., 7-6 at No. 3 singles; 4-5 in MIAC singles; 5-8 at first doubles)
- Gabby Queenan (Jr., 5-9 at No. 4 singles; 6-4 at No. 2 doubles)

Key Losses

- Paige Schaefer (8-10 at No. 1 singles; 39 career singles wins, mostly at No. 1 and No. 2)

By the Numbers

- 4: Macalester had four players make academic all-conference honors a year ago.
- 9: Macalester's roster is represented by players from nine different states
- 19: This will be the 19TH consecutive year Macalester has played matches at Hilton Head, South Carolina

Did You Know?

- Head Coach Jason Muhl, who enters his seventh season as the women's tennis head coach, was named MIAC women's coach of the year in 2008 after guiding Macalester to a school-best 15-5 record.

Off the Court

- The Scots had four players represented on the Academic All-MIAC squad last year.
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SAINT BENEDICT | [Blazers women's tennis home page](#) |



Head coach

- Scott Larsen (Eighth season)

A Year Ago

- 4-6 MIAC (Seventh place) | 10-8 Overall

Top Returners

- Daley Rupar (#1/2, So. | All-MIAC 12-8, 6-4 MIAC)
- Jamie Hoffman (#1/2, Sr. | 6-6 at No. 1 in 2013)
- Ellie Black (#3/4/5, Jr. | 11-6, second on the team in wins, played matches at No. 2, 3, 4 & 5)

By the Numbers

- 8: Wins away from 100 in his career for head coach Scott Larsen, who's career record is 92-54 and 44-26 in the MIAC.
- 6: Starters back in 2014. Each of the Blazers top-six players from last season returns in 2014, and with Jamie Hoffman as the lone senior the future continues to look bright.
- 3: Wins by shutout last season, including wins over MSU Moorhead, Sioux Falls and Macalester. The Blazers were also leading Hamline 6-0, and clinched the match win, before weather canceled the rest of the play.

Did You Know?

- The Blazers were unbeaten in the fall campaign, with wins over Upper Iowa (6-3), UW-River Falls (8-1), UW-Eau Claire (6-3) and Minnesota State (5-4).

Off the Court

- During the fall semester, the Blazers tennis team spent time reading to children at local elementary schools.
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ST. CATHERINE | [Wildcats' women's tennis home page](#) |

Head coach

- Ben Hageseth (Sixth season)

A Year Ago

- 10-0 MIAC (First place) | 15-2 Overall

In the 2013 Postseason

- No.1-seed in MIAC playoffs, lost 5-3 to St. Thomas in semifinals

Top Returners

- Victoria Bravo (Sr. | All-MIAC-singles and doubles, 2013; led MIAC individuals at No. 1 singles with 10-0 MIAC record; 9-1 MIAC doubles in 2013; ITA Central Region Player to Watch)
- Maria Koval (Jr. | All-MIAC-singles and doubles, 2012, 2013; 10-0 at No. 3 singles in 2013; 9-1 MIAC doubles in 2013)
- Kylie Ketcho (Jr. | All-MIAC-doubles, 2013; 7-3 MIAC singles in 2013; 9-1 MIAC doubles in 2013)

Key Losses

- Michaela Burroughs (2013 MIAC Chris Evert Award; All-MIAC-singles 2013; All-MIAC doubles 2012, 2013; 45-25 career doubles record is No. 5 all-time at St. Kate's)

By the Numbers

- 1: The Wildcats used an untainted 10-0 MIAC record to claim the program's first regular season title. The historic win was only the second in school history in any sport. The Wildcats ranked as high as No. 6 in the ITA Regional poll and picked up the first national ranking in program history at No. 30. The Wildcats also captured the No. 1 seed in the MIAC playoffs in their third-straight postseason trip.
- 16: Angie Lorenzen and Mikinzee Salo went a perfect 10-0 in MIAC doubles and 16-1 overall at the No. 3 spot. Their 16 wins rank No. 6 all-time in a single season at St. Kate's.
- 27: The Wildcats went an impressive 27-2 in MIAC doubles matchups for a 93.3 winning-percentage – the best by any MIAC team in 2013.

Did You Know?

- Ben Hageseth was named the MIAC Coach-of-the-Year for the second-straight season in just his fifth year at the helm of Wildcat tennis program. He was also named the ITA Central Region Coach of the Year.

Off the Court

- Two Wildcats – Michaela Burroughs and Maria Koval – earned Academic All-MIAC honors for the 2013 season. This was Burroughs' second-straight year garnering the honor.



SAINT MARY'S | [Cardinals' women's tennis home page](#) |

Head coach

- Jeff Halberg (16th season)

A Year Ago

- 2-8 MIAC (Ninth place) | 10-10 Overall

Top Returners

- Lindsey Reinisch (5-5, Jr. | 9-10 in singles, 9-8 in doubles)
- Grace Zachman (5-11, Sr. | 2-7 in singles, 9-11 in doubles)
- Katie Krull (5-8, So. | 10-6 in singles, 6-5 in doubles)

Key Losses

- Rachel Luetmer (Four-year letterwinner | 8-7 in singles, 6-4 in doubles)
- Deanne Webber (Four-year letterwinner | Led team in wins in both singles and doubles, going 14-6 in singles and 10-9 in doubles)

By The Numbers

- 5: SMU boasted five players — Katie Krull (Rochester, Minn.), Stacy Buss (Chicago, Ill.), Leanne Cleveland (La Crosse, Wis.), Kirsten Hoffman (Apple Valley, Minn.) and Lexi Felten (Waukesha, Wis.) — who recorded their first collegiate singles wins last season.
- 10: The Cardinals closed out the 2013 season with 10 wins, marking the second straight season, and the eighth time in the last 10 years, that SMU has won 10 or more matches.
- 14: Deanne Webber (Reedsburg, Wis.) won eight of her last 10 singles matches and closed out the season with a team- and career-best 14 singles wins. Webber's 14-win season ranks her seventh in program history for single-season wins. She closed out her collegiate career with 33 singles wins, ranking her fourth all-time.

Did You Know?

- With their 7-2 win over Bemidji State on Feb. 2, the Cardinals have now won their season opener in two of the last three years — with both wins coming against Bemidji State, and both wins by 7-2 decisions.

Off The Court

- Grace Zachman (Elk River, Minn.) represented the SMU women's tennis team on the Academic All-MIAC squad in 2012.
-

ST. OLAF



ST. OLAF | [Oles' women's tennis home page](#) |

Head coach

- Scott Nesbit (26th season)

A Year Ago

- 6-4 MIAC (Fifth place) | 9-9 Overall

In the 2013 Postseason

- MIAC postseason results - Lost in Quarterfinal round to UST, 5-2

Top Returners

- Alisa Hall (Soph. | Was 10-8 at top singles spot, including 6-4 in league play)
- Kristi Kroker (Jr. | Went 11-7, mostly at No. 3 spot in 2013)

Key Losses

- Julia Ellis (Went 11-6 from No. 2 singles spot)

By the Numbers

- 5: St. Olaf has finished in the top five in the league in each of the last five seasons... St. Olaf was third four straight times from 2009-2012 before finishing fifth last spring.
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ST. THOMAS | [Tommies' women's tennis home page](#) |

Head coach

- Terry Peck (19th season)

A Year Ago

- 7-3 MIAC (Fourth place) | 14-6 Overall

In the 2013 Postseason

- MIAC postseason results (2-1, 2nd place; def. St. Olaf 5-2; def. St. Catherine 5-3; lost to Carleton 0-5)

Top Returners

- Kara Lefsrud, JR, 28-6 in singles, 36-12 in doubles on UST career
- Shelby Henderson, SO, 9-9 at first singles, 11-9 in doubles last season as freshman
- Bridget Noack, SO, 13-4 in singles, 16-4 in doubles as freshman

Key Losses

- Mary Allen, Grad, 11-9 in doubles last season, co-No. 1 singles

By the Numbers

- 26: Career doubles wins, in 35 matches, for junior Brittany Alexander
- 93: Combined career singles and doubles wins for senior twins Anna and Rachel Wright
- 9: Number of sophomores and freshmen on Tommies' 15-player roster

Did You Know?

- UST's unseeded doubles team of junior Kara Lefsrud and sophomore Bridget Noack went 5-0 last fall to sweep the ITA regional doubles title, beating the Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 5 seeds along the way. That qualified them for the fall ITA national tournament.

Off the Court

- St. Thomas received the ITA Academic honors for the fourth consecutive year with its team grade-point average of 3.46 for 2012-13. Six Tommies qualified for individual honors with gpas of 3.50 or higher.
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[MIAC Women's Tennis Home Page](#)